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Japan

'No Decision' Yet on Expulsion of Iraqi Diplomats

OW2901131191 Tokyo KYODO in English 1250 GMT 29 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 29 KYODO—The Foreign Ministry has received requests from at least one foreign diplomatic mission in Tokyo that Japan consider reducing the number of Iraqi diplomats here, a Foreign Ministry source said Tuesday.

Other Foreign Ministry officials declined to comment on whether such a request has been received, but said Japan is carefully examining the propriety of allowing Iraq's seven diplomats to remain in Japan. "No decision of that nature has been arrived at as of today," said one official when asked if an expulsion order is in the offing.

A U.S. Embassy spokesman, meanwhile, declined to confirm or deny whether the embassy has urged the Japanese Government to reduce the Iraqi diplomatic presence. "We are continually in touch with the Japanese Government and the National Police Agency about our security concerns," the spokesman said.

Foreign Ministry officials acknowledged that their concern has been heightened following Iraqi Ambassador to Japan Rashid al-Rifai's remarks to reporters last Thursday that Japan's funding of the multinational forces fighting Iraq makes it a "hostile country."

Several Western countries have already ordered reductions of Iraqi diplomatic staff amid Baghdad's repeated calls on Muslims to attack Western interests worldwide. Last week the Philippines expelled an Iraqi diplomat and deported two sons of another Iraqi diplomat after linking them to a botched bombing attack on a U.S. information center in Manila.

Foreign Ministry officials noted that immigration procedures have been tightened at Japanese ports of entry, while security around potential terrorist targets has been boosted.

In addition to the seven Iraqi diplomats in Tokyo over 60 Iraqi citizens are believed to be still residing in Japan, officials said.

Kaifu on Need To 'Redefine' Postwar Pacifism

OW3001055391 Tokyo KYODO in English 0523 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 30 KYODO—Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, struggling to gain public approval for Japan's 9 billion dollar contribution to U.S.-led multinational forces in the Persian Gulf, suggested Wednesday that the nation redefine its interpretation of pacifism.

"Japanese pacifism... cannot be a type of pacifism where only our country alone lives in peace," Kaifu told the third and final day of Diet questioning of his policy speech delivered last Friday. "Barring military aspects, we will cooperate to the greatest extent possible in order to fulfill our duty" in the Gulf, he said. He declined to specify, however, whether use of the latest donation would be restricted to noncombat purposes.

Kaifu said he is following developments in the war, and would use diplomatic efforts to help restore peace in the Gulf. He made the comment in response to a question from House of Councilors Member Hiroshi Tsuruoka of the lay Buddhist-affiliated Komeito, who suggested that Japan should be pushing for a ceasefire.

Finance Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto, in an apparent gesture to appease Komeito, suggested he was open to discussion on trimming the budget to raise funds for the latest contribution, in addition to raising taxes.

Komeito has been pressing the administration to dip into funds earmarked for public investment and defense to meet the 9 billion dollar pledge, but so far the government has stood by its plan to increase taxes.

Success of the government plan depends on support from opposition parties in the opposition-dominated House of Councilors. Komeito is the party most likely to provide the needed support.

Antiwar Protesters Disrupt Kaifu Address to Diet

OW3001085191 Tokyo KYODO in English 0819 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 30 (KYODO)—Two antiwar protesters were arrested Wednesday after lobbing their jogging shoes toward Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu as he addressed the House of Councillors.

Shouting "No to War of Aggression" one of the men tossed a shoe onto the floor from the visitor's gallery. The other man's shoe landed near the stenographers, who were seated beneath the lectern where Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu was explaining that Japan has an obligation to support the U.S.-led multinational troops in the Gulf. Three shoes were thrown before security officials forcibly removed the men from the gallery.

Kaifu noticed the commotion, but continued speaking on how the international community must not allow nations to forcibly take over their weaker neighbors. Speaking to reporters later, he said, "To throw shoes while the Diet is debating peace is out of line."

Police said the two men declined to identify themselves or answer questions. On entry to the visitor's gallery the men registered themselves as Chikara Ibuki, 36, and Hiroshi Kobayashi, 42, both from Tokyo. Police charged them with trespassing and forcibly obstructing Diet business.

The disturbance was the first by visitors to a parliamentary plenary session since 1971, when spectators set off firecrackers while parliament was discussing the return of the Okinawa Islands from U.S. Administration. On other occasions, however, security officers have been called in to handle skirmishes among opposition and ruling party parliamentarians.

Visitor's must undergo a security check and submit their personal belongings for inspection before they are admitted to the observation gallery.

JSP's Doi Criticizes Government's Gulf Policies

OW3001051191 Tokyo KYODO in English 0452 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 30 KYODO—Japan Socialist Party (JSP) Chairwoman Takako Doi on Wednesday accused the government of making light of the Constitution in giving an extra 9 billion dollars to the U.S.-led multinational forces fighting Iraq.

The leader of the No. 1 opposition party also took the government to task for its decision to dispatch military transport planes to help evacuate refugees from the Gulf war.

The government is making light of Japan's war-renouncing Constitution and the remorse of the Japanese people over Japan's aggression against Asian countries in World War II, Doi said in an address to some 630 party representatives at the opening session of the three-day party convention. Japan now stands at a crossroads of whether the Constitution can remain unblemished, she said.

The JSP can not agree to the government's planned dispatch of Air Self-Defense Force (ASDF) transport planes to the Middle East without the approval of the Diet. This circumvention of the Diet means Japan gives up the status of being a law-governed country, Doi said. Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu has reiterated that the government will send ASDF transport planes to the Middle East based on a cabinet ordinance. Doi said the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) is forgetting that three million Japanese and 20 million people of other Asian nations were killed in the 15 years of war Japan waged prior to 1945. She said the JSP will seek to take over power from the LDP in its struggle to achieve peace in Asia and the rest of the world.

The JSP will make every effort to build up its capability for government and cooperation with other opposition parties, Doi said.

The three-day JSP convention adopted a resolution on the Gulf war calling for an immediate cease-fire and peace in the region.

The resolution demanded the government to cancel its pledges to contribute an additional 9 billion dollars to the U.S.-led multinational forces fighting Iraq. It also demanded the government scrap its decision to dispatch Self-Defense Forces transport planes to the Middle East, which it said violates the aspects of the Constituiton that renounce war.

The resolution said the JSP will launch a large-scale, nationwide antiwar campaign in a bid to recover peace in the Gulf region.

Poll: Citizens Divided on Gulf War, Against Aid

OW3001092191 Tokyo KYODO in English 0816 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 30 (KYODO)—The Japanese are almost equally divided in their views on the Persian Gulf war, and a majority are opposed to their government's new 9 billion dollar pledge for U.S.-led multinational forces, according to a KYODO NEWS SERVICE poll.

The poll found 48 percent in favor of fighting Iraq and 45 percent against, while 53 per cent were either opposed (30 percent) to the new pledge or against any contribution (23 percent).

Forty-five percent of respondents indicated they agreed to the 9 billion dollar pledge, which brought Japan's total contribution to the multinational forces to 11 billion dollars. A vast majority, 80 percent, are also concerned that the war will be drawn out and will eventually affect their lives, the poll showed.

The survey was conducted after Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu announced the additional support for the multinational forces on January 24.

Despite the opposition, 50 per cent of respondents seemed resigned to Japan's role in funding the multinational forces, replying that a war tax on items such as gasoline or cigarettes would be unavoidable, while 49 percent said they were opposed. How to raise the money is likely to be a major point of contention in the just-opened session of the Diet (parliament).

The poll found the voting public even more strongly aligned against the government decision to dispatch military planes to the Middle East to help evacuate refugees, with 58 percent against the plan, and 38 percent in favor. The refugee evacuation program will be the first overseas mission for Japan's military since it was defeated in World War II.

The poll also indicated increasing disenchantment with Kaifu's handling of the Gulf crisis. Fifty-four percent of respondents said they did not approve of Kaifu's support for the war, while 39 percent favored the prime minister's stance. An earlier telephone survey conducted after Kaifu unveiled Japan's first round of contributions in late August showed that 54 percent of respondents approved of his leadership, while 43 percent did not.

Women and young adults were less supportive of the war than men and older respondents, according to the nationwide telephone survey of 2,012 voters conducted from January 25 to 27. Fifty-eight percent of women disapproved of the decision to go to war, 62 percent were against boosting Japan's financial support, and 64 percent wanted the Air Self-Defense Force C-130 transport planes to stay home. In contrast, 62 percent of men said they agreed with the war, 53 percent were in favor of Japan's latest financial contribution, and 45 percent supported the dispatch of military transport planes.

A majority of pollees in their 20s, 56 percent, disapproved of the war, compared with 48 percent of respondents in their 30s, and 44 percent of those in their 40s and 50s.

Kaifu Considering Taxes, Bonds for Gulf Aid

OW2901135091 Tokyo KYODO in English 1017 GMT 29 Jan 91

[Addition to an item published in the 29 January East Asia DAILY REPORT, page 22, column 1, headlined "Kaifu Says No Further Gulf Aid Being Considered."]

[Text] Tokyo, 29 Jan KYODO—Later in the day Kaifu said he is considering raising taxes on a temporary basis to meet the 9 billion dollar contribution, but that the government would first issue short-term bonds to raise the money.

The chairman of the Democratic Socialist Party, Keigo Ouchi, voiced strong support for Japan's financial contribution for the war effort, saying it was necessary to strengthen the United Nations' peacekeeping role as well as to maintain good relations with the United States. But he sharply criticized the government for failing to debate in parliament its decision to send military aircraft overseas for the first time since World War II.

Kaifu said the government independently issued a Self-Defense Forces (SDF) ordinance in response to a request for planes from the International Organization for Migration (IOM), and he indicated that he considered Diet debate too time consuming and perhaps risky. Last fall the Diet rejected a proposal to include noncombat SDF personnel in a team to assist United Nations peacekeeping efforts.

Ouchi cited South Korea's decision to send 154 military medics to Saudi Arabia, and urged the government to send SDF doctors on the C-130s dispatched to help evacuate refugees. Kaifu responded that the matter is being considered.

Urged by Ouchi to offer immediate assistance for the massive oil spill incurred in the Gulf war, Kaifu said the government is continuing to work on an assistance plan. Measures under consideration include providing oil fences, technical information on protecting desalination plants, and cooperation in evaluating the damage, he said. Government officials have said, however, that it may be difficult to dispatch a survey mission because they would be going to a war zone.

Japanese Communist Party Secretariat Chief Mitsuhiro Kaneko asserted that the majority of Japanese people believe a peaceful solution to the war should have been pursued through diplomatic routes even after the January 15 U.N. deadline for Iraq to leave Kuwait had passed. He urged linking Iraq's withdrawal from Kuwait with the resolution of the Palestinian issue. Kaneko also objected strongly to the dispatch of SDF planes without Diet approval.

Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama told parliament that Japan continues to reevaluate its pledge of humanitarian assistance to the Soviet Union in the aftermath of the military crackdown in the Baltic republics.

Last month Japan joined Western industrialized democracies in offering to help the Soviet Union overcome shortfalls in food and consumer goods as the nation moves toward a market-oriented economy.

Japan has offered 14 billion yen in relief and loans.

EPA May Revise Forecast Due to Gulf Aid Pledge

OW2901040191 Tokyo KYODO in English 0301 GMT 29 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 29 KYODO—The Economic Planning Agency (EPA) may have to revise its economic forecast released last week to allow for Japan's pledge of 9 billion U.S. dollars in additional aid to the U.S.-led multinational forces in the Persian Gulf, EPA Director General Michio Ochi indicated Tuesday.

The cabinet approved the report last Friday, but the forecast did not make provision for the effects of the pledge, such as education in the nation's current account surplus and how it would influence prices.

The government and the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) decided last Thursday on the aid package, which is in addition to the already pledged 2 billion dollars to the allied forces and 2 billion dollars in economic assistance to frontline nations affected by the war.

The government plans to raise funds through issuing short-term government bonds and imposing additional taxes.

The EPA report estimated Japan's current account surplus for Fiscal 1990 ending this March at 32 billion dollars and that for Fiscal 1991 at 30 billion dollars.

It estimated the Consumer Price Index (CPI) would rise by 2.4 percent in Fiscal 1991 after a 3.1 percent hike this fiscal year. The forecast for the Wholesale Price Index (WPI) was that it would rise by 2.0 percent in Fiscal 1990 but drop by 0.1 percent next fiscal year.

580 Vietnamese Gulf War Refugees Arrive in Tokyo

OW2901143791 Tokyo KYODO in English 1229 GMT 29 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 29 KYODO—The first group of 580 Vietnamese refugees from the Persian Gulf war arrived at new Tokyo International Airport at Narita from Cairo on Tuesday night aboard two government-chartered planes, en route to Vietnam. They are scheduled to leave Narita for Ho Chi Minh City early Wednesday after several hours of rest.

The Vietnamese, mostly laborers who fled Iraq for Jordan following Iraq's invasion of Kuwait in August, are the first Asian refugees to be flown home under the Japanese Government's refugee evacuation program.

Japan plans to airlift a total of some 1,000 refugees from the war-torn Middle East area at the request of the Geneva-based International Organization of Migration

(IOM). The second batch of 465 refugees—383 Vietnamese and 82 Thais—will come to Tokyo from Cairo on Thursday aboard another two planes chartered by the Japanese Government.

The 580 Vietnamese refugees boarded the two Japan Airlines aircraft Monday in Cairo, where they arrived after traveling by ferry and bus from Jordan after leaving refugee camps in the suburbs of Amman.

Japanese police officers and Foreign Ministry officials are accompanying the refugees on their flights to Japan via London and Paris.

Spokesman on Efforts To Control Gulf Oil Spill

OW2901143491 Tokyo KYODO in English 1130 GMT 29 Jan 91

[Addition to an item published in the 29 January East Asia DAILY REPORT, page 23, column 2, headlined "Talks on Gulf Oil Spill Continue."]

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 29 KYODO—Meanwhile, Foreign Ministry spokesman Taizo Watanabe told reporters that Japan wants to do "whatever possible to block this outrageous attempt to pollute the Gulf." Watanabe said that before the oil booms could be sent, Japan must first conclude an agreement with the Saudi Arabian Government and "overcome technical problems." Those problems were believed to be related to discussions between the government and the oil industry, as well as logistical problems in transporting the massive barriers.

Foreign Ministry sources said there are also several schemes under consideration by which specialists, such as those from the Japan International Cooperation Agency, could be sent to Saudi Arabia. But the sources stressed that it is not yet certain whether such a dispatch of personnel will actually be realized.

On the possibility of dispatching the government's natural disaster relief team, one source said it would not be possible in the present case as the leakage of oil into the Gulf is a man-made disaster rather than one which occurred naturally.

Government To Supply Oil Fence

OW3001053591 Tokyo KYODO in English 0456 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 30 KYODO—The Government decided on Wednesday to charter several planes from foreign airlines to supply Saudi Arabia with 30 kilometers of oil fence sometime this week. The oil fence would be used to help control a huge oil slick now threatening the coast of northeastern Saudi Arabia.

Iraq claims the oil was released after U.S. planes bombed oil facilities in Kuwait, but the United States claims it has satellite photos which prove Iraq deliberately released the oil into the Persian Gulf.

The Maritime Safety Agency, Arabian Oil Co., and other Japanese firms have agreed to supply the oil fence.

The government also decided to call for the immediate opening of a United Nations Environment Program Conference to consider a world policy toward environmental problems.

Officials Say Saudi Arabia May Cut Oil Supplies

OW3001094991 Tokyo KYODO in English 0709 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 30 (KYODO)—The government is concerned over oil supplies from Saudi Arabia because the Gulf war has caused Japanese oil firms to charter foreign oil tankers to transport Saudi oil contracted to Japan.

Japanese vessels have been barred from calling at oil terminals along the Persian Gulf coast of Saudi Arabia since the outbreak of the war two weeks ago to ensure the safety of seamen. Oil companies said they are not sure yet whether they will be able to take delivery of Saudi oil in February.

Government officials expressed concern Wednesday that Saudi Arabia may cut oil supplies to Japan in the future if Japanese oil firms continue to refrain from taking delivery of oil contracted under long-term deals. Under an agreement reached between the seamen's union and ship owners, Japanese oil tankers have been ordered to stay away from waters along the western coast of the Persian Gulf. Japanese oil firms declined a Saudi Arabian offer to deliver oil at terminals along the Red Sea coast mainly because of high transportation costs.

Nippon Oil Co. said it plans to charter a 258,000-ton tanker of Maltese registry to proceed to Saudi Arabia, while Cosmo Oil Co. is studying a similar plan. Kyodo Oil Co. said it plans to ship Saudi oil via the Red Sea.

The Ministry of International Trade and Industry said Japanese oil importers have managed to implement their contracts with Saudi Arabia for January delivery, but it is not certain whether they will be able to take over the entire amount of about 20 million barrels for February delivery.

Saudi Arabia accounted for 19.7 percent of the total Japanese oil imports in December last year. Imports from the neutral zone between Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, where Khafji oil fields are located, amounted to 4.7 percent of the total.

Ministry Issues Libya, Bangladesh Travel Advisory

OW2901181891 Tokyo KYODO in English 1219 GMT 29 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 29 KYODO—The Foreign Ministry on Tuesday advised travel agencies to caution travelers to Libya of a possible worsening in the political situation there following anti-U.S. and pro-Iraqi demonstrations in that country.

The ministry also called for travelers to exercise caution in Bangladesh because of the activities of pro-Iraqi groups as well as a possible worsening of the political situation prior to parliamentary elections scheduled for late February.

The ministry is advising travelers to Bangladesh to give advance notification of their travel plans to the Japanese Embassy and to stay away from political gatherings.

Talks With Soviet Business Leaders Open 30 Jan

OW3001064191 Tokyo KYODO in English 0603 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 30 KYODO—The recent crackdown in the Baltic republics overshadowed the opening Wednesday of a three-day meeting of Soviet and Japanese business leaders to discuss economic cooperation.

Vladislav L. Malkevich, chairman of the Soviet Chamber of Commerce and Industry and leader of the Soviet delegation, stressed that perestroyka is still alive. In a speech during the morning session, Malkevich said the reformist policy introduced by beleaguered Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev is continuing, with the economy being transformed into a market-driven one.

Isamu Yamashita, chairman of the Japan-Soviet Business Cooperation Committee, expressed hope that Gorbachev's scheduled visit to Japan in April will usher in a new era of Japan-Soviet economic relations. Yamashita called for solutions in the near future of the "unresolved issue that derives from unfortunate history," apparently referring to the territorial dispute over the four small islands east of Hokkaido. The Soviet Union has occupied these islands, previously belonging to Japan, since the end of World War II. He also urged the Soviet Union to move toward settling arrears in its payments for Japanese imports and clarifying the jurisdiction covering trade talks.

In a message to this 13th regular meeting on economic cooperation between the two countries, Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu said keeping perestroyka heading in the right direction in the Soviet Union is important for expansion of bilateral economic ties.

During the morning general assembly Wednesday, Malkevich emphasized that perestroyka has reached a point of no return with no alternative path, Japanese officials with the Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren) said. Pointing out that the Soviet Central Government controls only one fifth of the nations' annual investments, Malkevich claimed the economy is being rapidly decentralized. He argued it is important not to be trapped by temporary emotions and keep track on long-term reciprocity.

On economic ties with Japan, Malkevich said he expects bigger Soviet exports to Japan of processed products, in addition to raw materials. He pressed for bilateral efforts to boost Japan's investments in the Soviet Union, including joint ventures and consortia.

The Soviet Chamber of Commerce head also cited large economic potential of the conversion of the military industries into civilian businesses. He said the Kremlin expects a variety of industries, including aircraft, shipbuildings, space explorations, telecommunications, electronics, and new materials, to flow from such conversions, the officials said.

Ministry Expects Feb Shipping Pact With USSR

OW2901064991 Tokyo KYODO in English 0627 GMT 29 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 29 KYODO—Japan will ask the Soviet Union to open two additional Siberian ports to Japanese shipping and propose inauguration of regular ferry services across the Sea of Japan, government officials said Tuesday.

Transport Ministry officials said the ministry expects an agreement on the matter at bilateral shipping talks to be held in Tokyo on February 6-7. Japan will urge the Soviet Union to open Vladivostok and Vanino ports on the Siberian coast to Japanese vessels, the officials said.

Moscow now allows Japanese ships to call at two Siberian ports—Nakhodka and Vostochnyy near Vladivostok. A Soviet shipping corporation based on Sakhalin Island currently transports goods from Japanese ports to Vanino.

Japan will also ask the Soviet Union to allow three Japanese shipping companies to inaugurate a joint ferry service between Hokkaido and Vanino or Vladivostok, the officials said.

The Japanese shipping firms involved in the project are Nippon Yusen K.K., Mitsui O.S.K. Lines Ltd., and Higashi Nihon Ferry Co., based in Sapporo.

Japanese and Soviet shipping firms now operate regular freighter services between Nakhodka and 10 Japanese ports, including Niigata, Nagoya, and Moji.

The Soviet Union is expected to ask Japan to provide financial assistance for improvement of facilities at Vanino. Both sides failed to reach agreement on the matter at their previous meeting in Moscow in September 1989.

Foreign Affairs Consultations Held With Hungary

LD2901092591 Budapest MTI in English 0826 GMT 29 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, January 29 (MTI)—Consultations on foreign affairs have been conducted between Japan and Hungary for the first time since the change of the system, in the latter country.

Hungarian [Administrative] State Secretary for Foreign Affairs Ferenc Somogyi has held talks with leaders of the Japanese Foreign Ministry and those of the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Industry. The two sides agreed that Hungarian Prime Minister Jozsef Antall would visit Tokyo in the second half of 1991.

A further strengthening of financial ties between the two countries will be marked by the visit to Hungary of Japanese Minister of Finance Hashimoto Ryutaro in the near future.

Speaking about his two-day talks in Japan, Ferenc Somogyi told MTI's Tokyo correspondent that both Japanese and Hungarian leaders agreed that the relations of the two countries should be based on direct interests, and not the fact that Hungary had a leading role in Eastern European changes.

Hungary, Czechoslovakia and Poland are regarded by Japan as those countries of the Eastern European region where changes have made the most considerable progress. Japanese negotiators, however, stressed that Hungary had a priority, in the government policies of Japan.

As regards the Suzuki enterprise, Japanese leaders said that the effects of the planned Japanese-Hungarian joint venture were beyond those of an ordinary enterprise and that the Japanese Government would grant the necessary support to it. (The Suzuki is building a car factory in Esztergom in Hungary with its Hungarian partners.) The Japanese Ministry of Foreign Trade and Industry will provide for the training of the venture's leaders.

The support granted by Japan to allies fighting in the Gulf has no effect whatsoever on sources of the Japanese state budget offered to Hungary, Japanese negotiators stressed.

U.S. Urges Government To Buy More Computers

OW2601082091 Tokyo KYODO in English 0751 GMT 26 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 26 KYODO—The United States urged the Japanese Government to buy more U.S.-made computers in a bilateral trade meeting held Saturday, government officials said.

In a meeting focused on Japan's government procurements of computers, the U.S. side expressed dissatisfaction that the foreign share in the 100-150 billion yen Japanese Government procurement of computers shows no clear sign of increasing, the officials said. Washington cited perceptions in the United States that unfair business practices in Japan are hindering U.S. producers in their attempts to enter the market.

The U.S. side in particular quoted the suspected supply of insider information on government procurements to Japanese makers, specifications that allegedly favor domestic makers, and extremely low bids for contracts by Japanese makers to secure the market for the long-term, according to the Japanese officials. The Japanese side rejected the U.S. claims.

"There are, to the best of our knowledge, no examples that support the U.S. claims," said Kenichiro Sasae, director of the Second North America Division of the Foreign Ministry. He said there are no official statistics about the foreign share of Japanese Government procurements, which consist mostly of rentals.

The U.S. side also expressed interest in the market for personal computers for schools, which is expected to grow as Japan has decided to boost computer education at the elementary and middle level.

No Agreement at Construction Talks With U.S.

OW2601010391 Tokyo KYODO in English 1234 GMT 25 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 25 KYODO—Three days of strenuous talks failed to bring Japan and the United States to a conclusion on improved foreign access to Japan's construction market, government officials said Friday.

"We have had very vigorous talks and have made some progress, but failed to reach a conclusion," a Construction Ministry official said.

"Though there remains a gap between the positions of the two sides, the talks have not broken down," he said. "We still hope to conclude them as early as possible."

Designed to review a 1988 agreement to open up Japan's 17 major public works projects to foreign companies, the talks were suspended on Friday after negotiators from the two countries failed to bridge their differences over a few U.S. requests aimed at prying open the Japanese market.

The officials said the U.S. negotiators expressed appreciation for Japan's efforts to open up its construction market to foreign competitors over the past two years, but pressed for greater efforts on the Japanese side to make it easier for U.S. companies to enter the market. They said there are now three unresolved issues; extension of the accord, known as the 1988 major projects agreement, to all Japanese public works projects, simplification of Japan's bidding procedures, and easing of the country's joint-venture rules. The first is the stickiest, they added.

The U.S. side is "adamant" on this specific issue, which the officials said is expected to remain as the last obstacle to an agreement.

Japan, however, is unlikely to budge because, as one ministry official put it, "such a request is unrealistic. We cannot be persuaded by the U.S. argument that the Japanese market is 'closed' unless the agreement extends to all projects."

"We have finished 80-90 percent of our job. But as long as the U.S. sticks to that request, we must say that agreement is rather far off," he said.

The officials stressed that Japan is still willing to conclude the review, which has stretched over five rounds of talks since May last year, as soon as possible.

So, apparently, is Washington, which must decide by May whether the Japanese market is sufficiently open and, if it is not, whether to take retaliation against Japan as required by the 1988 Omnibus Trade Act.

The talks were due to finish on Thursday but were extended until Friday.

Honda To Cut Feb-Mar Car Shipments to U.S.

OW2901100691 Tokyo KYODO in English 0741 GMT 29 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 29 KYODO—Honda Motor Co. said Tuesday it will curtail car exports to the United States in February and March and reduce U.S. production in anticipation of sluggish sales because of the Persian Gulf war.

The company said shipments in the two months will be cut to 50,000 units, down from the planned 70,000 units. The reduction is about 5 percent of Honda's total planned U.S. exports for 1991.

Car production at Honda's Marysville, Ohio, plant will also be reduced by 5,000 units from January through March, the company said. "The reductions in production are due to the projected weakening of the automobile market in the U.S., caused primarily by economic factors, including the war in the Persian Gulf," the company said. Company officials said, "the adjustments will have no impact on Honda's employment in Japan or the U.S.," but industry sources believe the decision will inevitably affect the company's financial performance for the year ending march 31.

Nissan Motor Co. has already announced it will review its projections for car exports to the United States, starting in April. Other major automakers are expected to follow suit.

Car sales in the U.S. market last year totaled about 9.3 million units, down 5.1 percent from the preceding year.

Demand remained sluggish this year, with sales for the first 20 days of this year totaling about 253,000 units, down 27 percent from the same period last year. Honda's sales fell 5.3 percent, to about 24,000 units.

Kondo Pessimistic on Farm Dipute at GATT Talks

OW2901040091 Tokyo KYODO in English 0317 GMT 29 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 29 KYODO—Japanese Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Minister Motoji Kondo said Tuesday that the farm dispute in the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Talks may not be solved within February.

Speaking to reporters after the day's cabinet meeting, the minister said there is not enough time to settle the stalled talks held under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

GATT's Director General Arthur Dunkel, who is expected to come up with a new proposal after February 4 for fresh negotiations, will shortly inform Japan of the contents of his proposal, Kondo said.

As to Japan's stance, Kondo said he will continue urging Dunkel to include the food security viewpoint in the proposal. Japan has contended that its ban on rice imports is necessary to ensure its policy of self-sufficiency in the supply of rice.

North Korea

South Army Accused of Military Provocations

SK3001155391 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1540 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] Pyongyang January 30 (KCNA)—The enemy who proclaimed an "emergency wartime system" in South Korea and put the U.S. troops and the South Korean puppet army on "emergency mobilization alert" is committing one military provocation after another against our side in the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ).

The South Korean puppet army perpetrated a grave military provocation on January 30 by firing machine-gun bullets at our side from its post 1,100 metres south of marker of the Military Demarcation Line (MDL) No. 0579 in the central sector of the front.

The puppet army on Jan. 30 installed a 90-mm recoilless gun and a 12.7-mm machine-gun at a post 400 metres south of marker of the MDL No. 0417.

On Jan. 28, the puppet army introduced 12.7-mm machine-guns into a spot 1,200 metres southwest of MDL marker No. 0697 in the central sector of the front and into a post 750 metres south of MDL marker No. 0370 in the western sector of the front.

Maj. General Choe Ui-ung, senior member of our side to the Military Armistice Commission, sent a telephone message to the enemy side on Jan. 30 in connection with the repeated military provocations of the enemy in the DMZ.

In the telephone message, Choe Ui-ung said that the enemy's provocations are deliberate and premeditated moves to aggravate the tension and confrontation in the DMZ, timed to coincide with the aggressive "Team Spirit 91" war exercises.

He bitterly denounced the South Korean puppet army for aggravating the situation in the DMZ in wanton violation of the armistice agreement and strongly urged the U.S. side to immediately pull out the illegally introduced heavy and automatic weapons and take responsible measures for ending the military provocations.

Immediate Suspension of Team Spirit Urged

SK2901122691 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0024 GMT 29 Jan 91

[NODONG SINMUN 29 January commentary: "Sophistry Designed To Justify Playing With Fire"]

[Text] The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets are attempting to make unreasonable excuses while staging the Team Spirit-91 joint military exercise.

A spokesman of the puppet defense ministry raved about 30 percent reduction of scale and shortening of duration, and described these steps as an expression of the interest in North-South dialogue. Furthermore, he propagandized that the training of northward nuclear attack is merely mobilization training designed to promote capabilities in the defensive posture of the U.S. Army and the puppet army.

This is a remark made by those who are feeling a strain while dangerously playing with fire.

The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique absolutely cannot conceal the aggressive and offensive nature and graveness of the Team Spirit-91 joint military exercise with such sophistry as reduction of scale, shortening of duration, defense, and so forth.

As they themselves have announced, the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets are going to deploy enormous armed forces from the U.S. mainland and the Pacific region in this exercise, not to mention the U.S. troops in South Korea and the puppet army.

Last year the U.S. imperialists began the mobilization of their aggressive forces from the U.S. mainland and overseas bases and deployment in South Korea in early February. However, this year they are going to begin mobilization beginning the end of January, thus moving up the commencement date. They disguisedly announced that the exercise will last until the end of April.

During the period of exercise, joint landing operation, aerial mobilization operation, river-crossing operation, commando operation and other major operations will be staged as scheduled.

This shows that the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets will begin the Team Spirit-91 joint military exercise from the early part of the year and stage it for a long time and on a large scale. This also shows that the exercise will be staged by giving the first consideration to the training of northward nuclear attack.

As has been exposed, the Team Spirit joint military exercise staged each year in South Korea by the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets is a preliminary war and test nuclear war aimed at launching a surprise attack on our Republic. Is it no accident that whenever this war exercise is staged, the people at home and abroad express great concerns.

We put forward reasonable proposals for peace in recent years to relax tension on the Korean peninsula and to effect a peaceful turning point for national reunification. Last year alone, we put forward an important proposal at the North-South High-Level Talks to remove the political and military confrontation. We also raised the issue of suspending the Team Spirit joint military exercise as an impending question which should be urgently resolved. We strongly demanded that this exercise, if it cannot be completely suspended, be temporarily discontinued for two or three years while the talks are under way.

If the South Korean ruling bunch was truly interested in North-South dialogue, it should deservedly have taken steps to suspend the Team Spirit joint military exercise this year. Nevertheless, the South Korean authorities are going to stage the Team Spirit war exercise this year, too, together with the U.S. imperialist aggressor forces. This clearly shows that they are not interested in North-South dialogue or in the issue of peace and reunification of the nation.

What is even more grave is that they are staging a nuclear war exercise on the Korean peninsula timed to coincide with the war in the Gulf area by the U.S. imperialist aggressors.

The U.S. imperialists openly said in the past that in the event that a war breaks out in other areas of the world, they would launch a nuclear attack on the northern half of the Republic, and thus pushed for troop reinforcement and war preparations.

Since war broke out in the Gulf area, the South Korean puppets drove all of South Korea into an emergency wartime posture at the U.S. imperialists' directive, as if they were waiting for it, and placed the armed forces of the puppet army on mobilization posture for a northward aggression. Dragging several hundred military aircraft in South Korea from bases in the Pacific region each day, the U.S. imperialists are staging aerial strike exercises by simulating a preemptive attack on the northern half of the Republic.

The U.S. imperialists are going to stage the Team Spirit joint military exercise by deploying enormous new troops together with the puppet army which has already assumed the mobilization posture. This suggests that they are going to start a war on the Korean peninsula in addition to one in the Gulf region.

It is clear to everyone that the Team Spirit-91 joint military exercise which the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique are staging will bring the situation on the Korean peninsula to the brink of war and lay grave obstacles to North-South dialogue including the North-South High-Level Talks and this exercise will even cause calamities of war.

We are watching with heightened vigilance the exercise of adventurous northward war of aggression which the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets are staging. The U.S. imperialists and the puppets should immediately and unconditionally suspend the Team Spirit joint military exercise, which extremely aggravates tension on the Korean peninsula, which increases the danger of war, and which puts grave obstacles to North-South dialogue, instead of adhering to unreasonable excuses for justifying playing with fire.

South Curfew Shows Fear of Anti-U.S. Forces

SK3001062091 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0443 GMT 30 Jan 91

["Criminals Seized With Uneasiness"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang January 30 (KCNA)—The command of the U.S. imperialist aggression forces present in South Korea recently issued "a curfew order" on the American soldiers in South Korea and instructed them to increase guard around U.S. military installations and black out the windows.

The U.S. imperialists announced that this step was taken because of indications of Gulf war-related terrorism against Americans, but it is, in actuality, a step taken for fear of the South Korean people's anti-U.S. resistance and to coil up the tensions, remarks NODONG SINMUN in a commentary today.

The news analyst says:

A thief has a guilty conscience. Those who lighted the train of war against other nation cannot remain in peace.

However, it is unbecoming of them to order "a curfew" for the U.S. Forces in South Korea because of the war in the Gulf far away from South Korea.

A hot wind of anti-Americanism is sweeping South Korea at present.

The U.S. imperialists are imposing a heavy stupendous burden of war upon South Korea with the outbreak of the Gulf war. Zealously joining in their master's war policy, the South Korean authorities are not only forcing the people to tighten their belts in order to raise the war fund but also offering young people as cannon fodder to the war.

The U.S. imperialists started "Team Spirit 91" joint military exercises with the insidious aim of spreading the flames of the Gulf war to the Korean peninsula.

The South Korean people are reacting to the U.S. imperialists' demand for troop dispatch, asking why our young people should shed blood again as mercenaries of the United States in the Gulf war which might turn out a second Vietnam war.

The U.S. imperialists' "alert" step reveals their uncertainty and guilty conscience and it is meant to cope with the anti-U.S. struggle of the South Korean people.

It is a miscalculation if the U.S. imperialists think they can put out the fierce flames of anti-U.S., anti-war sentiments raging in South Korea with their clumsy tricks, stresses the news analyst.

Radio Announces Beginning of Talks With Japan

SK3001023691 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0145 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] The first round of full-dress intergovernmental talks between the DPRK and Japan for the normalization of diplomatic relations has been in progress at the Mansudae Assembly Hall in Pyongyang since 1030 this morning. Participating in the talks are the DPRK Government delegation from our side, led by Vice Foreign Minister Chon In-chol, and the Japanese Government delegation from the Japanese side, led by Noboru Nakahira, specially appointed ambassador at the vice-ministerial level of the Foreign Ministry.

Meetings Begin, Japan Apologizes

OW3001035691 Tokyo KYODO in English 0245 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] Pyongyang, Jan. 30 KYODO—Japanese and North Korean delegates began their first round of talks on normalizing ties Wednesday with Japan extending an apology for the "unfortunate past relations" on the Korean peninsula.

The meeting in the North Korean capital of Pyongyang began with the head of the Japanese delegation, Noboru Nakahira, expressing for the first time to Pyongyang an official apology from Japan for its harsh 1910-1945 colonial rule over the peninsula, signaling a desire to end 80 years of abnormal relations.

Nakahira, a former ambassador to Malaysia, added, however, that Tokyo would not abandon its ties with Pyongyang's archrival in South Korea, and further urged North Korea to comply with international conventions on the inspection of nuclear facilities. "We regret that there has been a period of unfortunate relations in the past between Japan and the Korean peninsula," Nakahira told the chief North Korean delegate to the talks, Vice Foreign Minister Chon In-chol. Nakahira reiterated Tokyo's basic stance toward war reparations to North Korea, saying that Japan was not at war with Korea during World War II.

North Korea has demanded compensation for both the colonial period and economic damage inflicted during the postwar years as a result of animosities between the two countries. Nakahira said that a joint statement last September by Japanese and North Korean officials calling for reparations for the colonial period and for postwar damage was issued at the level of political parties and was not binding on the government. Nakahira acknowledged that economically troubled North Korea has a right to make demands for compensation, but not for war reparations.

In 1965, Tokyo agreed to provide 500 million dollars in grants and low-interest loans to South Korea in return for a promise from Seoul not to press for reparations.

In Wednesday's meeting, Nakahira also sought to allay South Korean fears that Tokyo may undermine the inter-Korean talks, saying that "the normalization of relations between Japan and North Korea does not mean a retreat from Japan-South Korea ties." Seoul has expressed concern that Pyongyang's rapid moves toward normal relations with Japan may undermine its own prime minister-level talks with North Korea.

Urging Pyongyang to open its nuclear facilities to international inspection, Nakahira said failure to do so leads to "anxiety and doubt in Japan and international society" that North Korea is developing nuclear weapons. North Korea, a signatory to the 1968 Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, has refused to open its nuclear processing plants to inspection by the International Atomic Energy Agency, calling instead for the removal of U.S. nuclear weapons from the peninsula.

North Korea, stung by Moscow's opening of relations last fall with Seoul, has sought ties with Tokyo to avoid international isolation and a jump start for its stagnant economy, East Asia watchers have suggested. Tokyo, which expects development of normal relations with North Korea to be a lengthy process, hopes that doing so will help to alleviate tension in the region, especially on the Korean peninsula.

More on Japanese Apology

OW3001085791 Tokyo KYODO in English 0655 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Excerpts] Pyongyang, Jan. 30 (KYODO)—Tokyo's mission to the first round of normalization talks with North

Korea on Wednesday opened with an apology for Japan's "unfortunate past relations" on the Korean peninsula.

Noboru Nakahira, the head of the Japanese delegation, began the first round of two days of official talks with Tokyo's first expression of remorse to Pyongyang for Japan's harsh 1910-1945 colonial rule over the peninsula. [passage omitted]

Nakahira told Kim [Yong-nam, the North Korean foreign minister], "We are reflecting deeply upon the troubles caused the Korean people by the past Japanese rule of 36 years."

In return, Kim expressed Pyongyang's strong desire to normalize ties with Tokyo and improve relations with the United States, whose counselors have met 13 times with North Korean representatives in Beijing.

He warned, however, that the annual "Team Spirit" joint military exercises by the U.S. and South Korea create "an artificial hurdle" to the inter-Korean prime ministers talks, scheduled to meet for a fourth time in February. Kim remarked that the normalization talks with Tokyo are unrelated to the Team Spirit issue. [passage omitted]

Kim Yong-nam Meets Delegation

SK3001052191 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0449 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] Pyongyang January 30 (KCNA)—Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam met and had a friendly talk this morning at the Mansudae Assembly Hall with the Japanese Government delegation led by Noboru Nakahira staying here to participate in the first inter-governmental full-dress talks for the normalization of DPRK-Japan diplomatic relations.

Present on the occasion was Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs Chon In-chol.

More on Kim Yong-nam's Meeting

SK3001053191 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0450 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] Pyongyang January 30 (KCNA)—Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam met and had a friendly talk this morning at the Mansudae Assembly Hall with the Japanese Government delegation led by Noboru Nakahira staying here to participate in the first inter-governmental full-dress talks for the normalisation of DPRK-Japan diplomatic relations.

Underlining the importance of the current visit of the Japanese Government delegation, Kim Yong-nam said:

You are the first official mission of the Japanese Government to visit our country.

He expressed the hope that the inter-governmental full-dress talks for the normalisation of DPRK-Japan diplomatic relations will be successfully held by the sincere efforts of the two sides in compliance with the demand and desire of the peoples of the two countries.

Outlining the significance of the normalisation of Japan-DPRK diplomatic relations, Noboru Nakahira said:

We will do our utmost with all sincerity to make the full-dress talks a success.

Noting that the former Prime Minister Takeshita, and incumbent Prime Minister Kaifu of Japan made apologies for Japan's 36 year-long rule over Korea in the past on several occasions, he added:

Japan is deeply reflecting on this now.

Afternoon Session of Talks Held

SK3001075491 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0610 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] The afternoon session of the first-day of the first full-dress intergovernmental talks between the DPRK and Japan for the normalization of diplomatic relations is in progress at the Mansudae Assembly Hall in Pyongyang.

Participating in the talks are the DPRK Government delegation from our side led by Vice Foreign Minister Chon In-chol and the Japanese Government delegation from the Japanese side led by Noboru Nakahira, specially appointed ambassador at vice-minister level for the Foreign Ministry.

Chon In-chol Fetes Delegation

SK2901153791 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1519 GMT 29 Jan 91

[Text] Pyongyang January 29 (KCNA)—The government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea today gave a reception at the Mokran House for the Japanese Government delegation which arrived to participate in the first inter-governmental full-dress talks for the normalisation of diplomatic relations between the DPRK and Japan.

The members of the Japanese Government delegation led by Noboru Nakahira, specially appointed ambassador at vice-minister level of the Foreign Ministry, were invited there.

Present at the reception were the members of the DPRK Government delegation led by Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs Chon In-chol.

At the reception, Chon In-chol warmly welcomed the members of the Japanese Government delegation who came to Pyongyang to attend the inter-governmental full-dress talks for the normalization of DPRK-Japan diplomatic relations, saying that they are the first envoys of the Japanese Government who visit Korea with friendship and good will in the history of the Korea-Japan relations.

Noting that the first step forward was taken toward the normalization of DPRK-Japan diplomatic relations amid great interest at home and abroad, he said: In this sense, your visit to Korea holds a very important place in the development of the relations of friendship and good neighbourhood between Korea and Japan.

Noboru Nakahira said: We are happy to be present at the reception this evening and have an opportunity of having a friendly conversation with you.

The Japanese Government has expressed on many occasions its willingness to hold talks with the DPRK Government on the basis of the present situation surrounding the Korean peninsula, he noted, adding: An early normalization of Japan-DPRK diplomatic relations is of historical importance for northeast Asia.

I deem it an honour to visit your country this time as representative of the Japanese Government, he said, expressing the hope that the talks would proceed smoothly.

The reception took place in a friendly atmosphere.

Chon In-chol Reviews Talks

SK3001114091 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1024 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] Pyongyang January 30 (KCNA)—The morning session of the first-day sitting of the first intergovernmental full-dress talks for the normalization of DPRK-Japan diplomatic relations here today was followed by a news briefing.

Head of the DPRK side Chon In-chol, vice-minister of foreign affairs, clarified at the briefing the DPRK's principled stand regarding the question of apology pertaining to Japan's political responsibility and the question of compensation pertaining to Japan's material responsibility, that arise in liquidating the past Korea-Japan relations.

We think today's talks is of weighty significance in clearly demonstrating at home and abroad the common will of the Koreans and Japanese Governments to make a new start toward reconciliation, good neighbourliness and friendship reflecting the unanimous wish of the Korean and Japanese peoples that the two countries will become close and friendly neighbours, he said.

The talks between the Workers' Party of Korea, the Liberal-Democratic Party and the Socialist party of Japan in Pyongyang in September last year and the three-party joint declaration published at the end of the talks brought a turning-point in doing away with the abnormal past and establishing new relations of good neighbourliness and friendship between Korea and Japan and a broad avenue for the improvement of Korea-Japan relations has been opened since then, he stressed, and went on:

At the talks today our delegation proposed that both the Korean and Japanese Governments maintain independence, display honesty, sincerity and the spirit of mutual concessions and discuss the questions on the agenda on the basis of the three-party joint declaration.

Following is the agenda on which the sides reached an agreement through three rounds of preliminary talks last year:

Firstly, "basic problems on the normalization of DPRK-Japan diplomatic relations"
Secondly, "economic issues attendant upon the normalization of DPRK-Japan diplomatic relations"
Thirdly, "international issues related to the normalization of DPRK-Japan diplomatic relations"
Fourthly, "other matters of mutual concern (legal status of Korean residents in Japan, Japanese spouses of Koreans, etc.)

An important point in the agenda is that the first and second items are inseparably linked to each other in their content and nature. Because the relations between the two countries can be established truly on the basis of respect of each other's sovereignty, mutual trust and friendship and other pending issues can be fully solved in the spirit of friendship and cooperation in the future only on the basis of a correct solution of the question of Japan's official apology and compensation to the DPRK and the Korean people.

That is why we raised the second item related to the question of compensations alongside the first item.

Our side made it clear that the normalization of DPRK-Japan diplomatic relations necessitates first of all that the top authority of the state and government of Japan make official apologies for the calamities and losses inflicted by Japan on the Korean people in the past.

Next, we proposed that all the treaties and agreements Japan had forced on former Korea including the "Korea-Japan annexation" treaty of 1910 be declared illegal and null and void on condition that Japan apologizes for the past.

Thus, in discussing the first item we raised two questions which must be solved, first of all, to normalize diplomatic relations between Korea and Japan, that is, the question of Japan's apology for the past should be solved correctly and, at the same time, all the treaties and agreements imposed on former Korea be declared illegal and null and void.

Next, we raised as the second item the question of Japan's compensation for the calamities and losses inflicted on the Korean people in the past.

The question of compensation constitutes a most important component part of the question of doing away with the past between Korea and Japan.

It is because the past can be substantially liquidated only by material compensation commensurate with the verbal and written apology.

As a matter of course, it is impossible to fully compensate for the colossal amount of human and material damages inflicted on the korean people in the past.

The point, we think, is that the offender should sincerely compensate, if but to a certain degree, so that the victim might understand, abandon his spite and turn to reconciliation.

An important matter arising in the compensation is what forms should be applied.

At today's talks, we contended that the form of reparation between warring states and the form of property claims must be applied to the solution of the compensation problem.

The first reason why we proposed the form of reparation between warring states is that either in the historical point of view or in the legal point of view, the past Korea-Japan relations were not confined to relations between a colony and the suzerain state but they were all along the relations of hostilities between Japan that invaded Korea and Korea that fought against the invasion.

Japan's aggression on Korea beginning with the "Unyo-ko incident" in 1875 met with a strong resistance of the Korean people with arms in hand from the outset.

Even after the signing of the "Ulsa protectorate treaty" in 1905 and the "Korea-Japan annexation treaty" in 1910, the Korean people extensively wag[illegible] a struggle for independence.

Especially, the Korean People's Revolutionary Army under the command of the great leader General Kim Il-song declared a war against Japan in the 1930s, fought the Japanese Army for 15 years and finally won victory. (

During the great anti-Japanese war, the Korean People's Revolutionary Army fought many battles, known and unknown, with the Japanese Army in vast areas. Still today we can see vivid traces of fierce battles everywhere in Manchuria and the area around Mt. Paektu.

The second reason is that in view of international law, the past Korea-Japan relations were obviously relations of hostilities.

There are variations of war—a war between sovereign states, a colonial war and a war for national liberation in a colony.

According to the law of war, militiamen and guerrillas are regarded as warring party, not to say of regular armies involved in a war.

And there is no article in international law which stipulates that reparation is applied only to wars between sovereign states and not to the national liberation wars in colonies.

From this legal point of view, we maintained that the anti-Japanese resistance of the Korean people, especially the fight between the Korean People's Revolutionary Army and the Japanese Army must be regarded as a war and, accordingly, the past Korea-Japan relations must be summed up mainly in the form of compensation for war damages.

As for the problem of "property claims," we stressed that the Japanese side was not in a position to bring forward any "property claims."

Even if Japan built something and left some property in Korea during its colonial rule, Japan did so with the labor force of the Korean workers and people and by bleeding them white.

Therefore, Japan has no ground to ask us to pay for them.

In the moral point of view, it can never be justified to claim the illegally earned property, as the invasion and occupation of Korea were illegal.

Moreover, Japan squeezed scores of times as much profits as the invested principal and destroyed nearly all when it was leaving Korea after its defeat in the war.

After the liberation of Korea, we rehabilitated and reconstructed them. But they were totally destroyed to ashes during the Korean war by the barbarous and indiscriminate bombing of the U.S. forces aircraft supported by Japan.

The ashes are not found today.

Therefore, we think that the Japanese side has no ground to raise "property claims."

As regards the matter of liquidating the past between Korea and Japan, we should consider that there can be only compensation for the human and material losses inflicted by Japan on our people and our property claims.

Thus, on the matter of compensation, we proposed two forms of settlement, that is, reparations for war damages and property claims against Japan and set an appropriate scale of them.

Next, at today's talks, we set forth the following principle of compensation for a correct settlement of this problem.

The compensation should not be a retaliation for the past, but be helpful to realising the desire of peoples of the two countries to liquidate the past in a sense of reconciliation and live peacefully and on friendly terms as neighbours. Accordingly, the compensation, though not enough to completely restore the original state, should be made in such a manner as to be fully understandable to the Korean people and to show Japan's sincerity.

Beside the matter of the compensation, we demanded at today's talks that Japan return cultural relics she took away from our country in the past.

We declared that if the matter of apology and compensation is solved and an agreement is reached on the establishment of diplomatic relations on the basis of the principle that Korea is one by origin and must be reunified peacefully, other items on the agenda of the full-dress talks would be easily solved in succession through discussion.

Saying there are two principles in the matter of the compensation for the 45 years after the war, Chon In-chol said:

The first principle is that Japan is responsible for the division of Korea and the second one is that she played the role of the supply base, the repair base and the attack base of the U.S. imperialist aggression forces during the Korean war.

Recalling that Japanese troops participated in marine operations during the Korean war, he stressed:

Japan must bear responsibility for the efforts made by the Korean people in the post-war period to heal the war damages and compensate for them.

In particular, Japan cannot avoid responsibility for the enormous damages she has inflicted upon our country after the war, while pursuing hostile policy against Korea.

Noting that Japan has gone through the past 45 years without making apology or compensation and its interests are colossal, Chon In-chol said that the political and economic losses imposed upon the Korean people in the period is quite enormous.

Touching upon the problem of the apology of the person in top authority of Japan, he said that it would be enough, if apology made in Prime Minister Kaifu's personal letter to the great leader President Kim Il-song is stressed in the document on the establishment of the diplomatic relations.

'Sincerity' Urged in Discussions With Japan

SK3001050491 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0421 GMT 30 Jan 91

["Japanese Government Must Approach With Sincerity Negotiation for Normalisation of Japan-DPRK Diplomatic Relations"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Tokyo January 28 (KNS-KCNA)—Vigorous campaigns are being conducted among the Japanese people from different sections in demand of an early normalisation of diplomatic relations between Japan and the DPRK after the publication of the three-party joint declaration of the Workers' Party of Korea, the Liberal Democratic Party and the Socialist Party of Japan on DPRK-Japan relations in September last year.

Resolutions urging the normalisation of Japan-DPRK diplomatic relations are being continuously adopted at local assemblies of Japan, and organisations formed to promote the establishment of diplomatic relations between Japan and Korea.

Till the end of last year, resolutions and requests demanding the normalisation of Japan-Korea diplomatic relations were adopted at assemblies of Saitama Prefecture, Nagano Prefecture, Hokkaido, Iwate, Aichi, Gifu, Kyoto and Tottori Prefectures and 48 cities and 24 districts and chos [towns].

A written opinion adopted at the Nishinomiya City Assembly of Hyogo Prefecture strongly demanded that the Japanese Government turn the so far abnormal Japan-Korea relations into normal relations at an early date on the basis of the spirit of peace, friendship and good-neighbourliness.

Prefectural people's councils and other organisations for promoting the establishment of Japan-Korea diplomatic relations are now being formed in different parts of Japan.

The Niigata Prefectural People's Council for Promoting the Establishment of Japan-Korea Diplomatic Relations which was formed in Niigata Prefecture on January 14 involves socialist and liberal-democratic dietmen, and other members of the prefectural and city assemblies, businessmen, lawyers and other people of all walks of life.

Rikijo Gobayashi, chairman of this organisation, said that the prefectural people's council will in the future develop in depth the campaign for urging the normalisation of Japan-Korea diplomatic relations into a people's movement embracing all strata.

Japanese young people are also demanding an early normalisation of Japan-Korea diplomatic relations.

The Youth and Children's Department of the Japan Socialist Party, the Council of the Young Men's Associations of Japan, the Central Youth Measure Headquarters of the Buraku Liberation League of Japan, the Japan League of Socialist Youth and other organisations in their statements demanded that the Japanese Government make efforts for early normalisation of Japan-Korea diplomatic relations.

Masahite Kataoka, representative of the central headquarters of the Japan League of Socialist Youth, said that Japan committed cruel acts and inflicted big damages on the Korean nation for 36 years in the past and has maintained abnormal relations with it without apology and compensation over the past 45 years after the war. He held that the Japanese Government should not pay heed to the South Korean authorities' moves but approach with sincerity the negotiations for normalisation of Japan-Korea diplomatic relations, respecting the spirit of the three-party joint declaration.

Soviet-Japanese Report Mentions Pyongyang Ties

SK3001044891 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0419 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text) Moscow January 28 (KCNA)—The Soviet-Japanese joint report on the Soviet official visit of Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama mentioned the normalisation of DPRK-Japan relations, according to a TASS report January 23.

The joint report said that Taro Nakayama referred to the intention of the Japanese side to normalise Japan-North Korea diplomatic relations in order to contribute to further easing the tension on the Korean peninsula.

Soviet Foreign Minister A.A. Bessmertnykh welcomed Japan's intention to normalise relations with the DPRK, it noted.

North-South Sports Talks Begin in Panmunjom

SK3001013991 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0108 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] According to reporter Kim Myong-song's report from Panmunjom, the third round of North-South sports talks for the North and the South to form a single team and participate in major international games is being

held now at the Tongilgak of our side's area in Panmunjom. To cover the talks, many reporters from the North and the South and from foreign press came to the Tongilgak.

Participating in the talks are five delegates from our side headed by Kim Hyong-chin, vice chairman of the DPRK Olympic Committee, and five delegates from the South side. The talks are in progress.

Further on Goals of Sports Talks

SK3001053991 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0433 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] Panmunjom January 30 (KCNA)—The third North-South sports talks for discussing and resolving the question of the formation of unified teams for the 41st world table tennis championships and other major international games is now being held in our side's portion of Panmunjom.

Present there are the North side's delegation headed by Kim Hyong-chin, vice-chairman of the DPRK Olympic Committee, and the South side's delegation with Chang Chung-sik, vice-chairman of the South Korean Olympic Committee, as chief delegate.

Head of our side's delegation Kim Hyong-chin made a speech at the talks.

He noted that scandalous things aggravating the North-South confrontation and tensions began taking place in South Korea shortly after the second North-South sports talks and, in particular, the "Team Spirit 91" joint military exercises directed against the dialogue partner are being forced in defiance of the strong opposition of the people at home and abroad.

The entire fellow countrymen and sportsmen in the North and South are surprised at these facts and express deep concern over the future of the sports talks and the formation and participation of the unified teams, he said.

He expressed the hope that the South side's Olympic Committee will make due efforts for an end to the acts of whipping up North-South confrontation out of sportsmanship and the stand of promoting national reconciliation and unity.

Then the head of our side's delegation outlined the stand and viewpoint of our side toward the matters to be discussed and resolved at the talks.

Firstly, he stressed that it is our side's stand to complete the discussion of the proposals for the formation of a unified team of the North and South and its participation in the 41st world table tennis championships at today's talks, in view of the urgency of the matter and underlined the reasonableness of the proposal already put forward by us as regards the method of selection of players, their training and the head of the teams.

Secondly, in connection with the question of forming and operating a working committee of the unified table tennis team for concrete discussion and promotion of the points of agreement on the formation of a unified team of the North and South and its participation in the 41st world table tennis championships, he agreed to the South side's proposal to form a working committee for each international game and put forward our side's draft agreement on the formation and operation of the working committee of the unified table tennis team.

Thirdly, hoping that the discussion of the draft agreement on the formation of a unified team of the North and South and its participation in the 41st world table tennis championships would be followed by an agreement on a letter informing the international table tennis federation of the participation of a unified team of the North and South in the forthcoming championships, he brought forward a draft agreement.

In conclusion, he proposed to start the discussion of the draft agreement on the formation of a North-South unified team for the sixth world youth soccer championships (under 20) after the completion of the discussion of the draft agreement on the formation of a unified team and its participation in the 41st world table tennis championships.

The talks continue.

Washington Reportedly 'Terror-Stricken' Over Gulf

SK2201071991 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2100 GMT 20 Jan 91

[Text] Ever since the war in the Gulf broke out, Washington, the capital of the United States, has been engulfed in terror.

Foreign news reports said that ever since Iraqi President Saddam Husayn had declared that if Iraq is attacked by the U.S. forces, it will mount a campaign of attacking all the U.S. facilities everywhere, fear about this campaign has been deepening in Washington.

According to news reports, on 17 January, the day the war broke out in the Gulf, the Environmental Protection Agency in Washington received a threat to blow up the agency's building. A warning siren wailing from a public address system sent about 5,000 employees seeking cover in a commotion.

One fleeing employee is reported to have expressed his fear by saying: We are under stress. Given the development in Iraq, does anybody know what is going to happen in Washington?

Foreign news reports said that the military tribunal building, sewage-waste processing plant, the department of finance building, a building occupied by oil business firms, and other federal buildings have also received bomb threats.

AFP reported on the scenes in a terror-stricken Washington as following: As soon as the war broke out in the Gulf, government officials intensified precautionary measures for the safety of major facilities, including air ports, without delay. The number of snipers standing on the rooftop of the White House have increased over the past few days and an increasing number of secret agents in uniform patrol its precinct.

The federated civil aviation bureau is placing the air ports under a maximum security posture. Bomb detection dogs sniff the forsaken passengers' luggage. Some air ports make the passengers go only through security posts after having their identification checked.

No less security precautions have been taken in entrances leading to military bases, power stations, and dams and other such major facilities.

Foreign news said that such a terror-stricken atmosphere was being stirred up in rural cities.

Yon Hyong-muk Arrives in Bangkok for Visit

SK3001025391 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2200 GMT 29 Jan 91

[Text] Comrade Yon Hyong-muk, premier of the DPRK State Administration Council, arrived in Bangkok, the capital of Thailand, by plane yesterday for an official goodwill visit to this country at the invitation of Chatchai Chunhawan, prime minister of the Kingdom of Thailand. Kim Pok-sin, vice premier; Chong Song-nam, minister of external economic affairs; Cho Kyu-il, vice minister of foreign affairs; and other entourage members arrived with the premier.

The flag of our country and the flag of the Kingdom of Thailand were flying at the airport, and placards welcoming the delegation were also placed there. The premier and his party were received at the airport by Chatchai Chunhawan, prime minister of the Kingdom of Thailand; (Chanunbasnd Siribikon), deputy prime minister; (Samak Sundarawido), minister of transportation; the vice foreign minister; the vice transportation minister; the ambassador-designate of the Kingdom of Thailand to our country; the deputy commander of the Supreme Command of the Thai Armed Forces; commanders of the Army, Navy, and Air Force; and the director of the General Police Bureau. Also present in the airport were representatives from the Office of Trade Representation of our country in Thailand, and diplomatic envoys of different countries.

At the airport, Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan hung a garland of flowers around the neck of Premier Yon Hyong-muk. A ceremonial function was held at the airport to welcome the premier of our country and his party. A 19-gun salute was fired while the national anthems of our country and the Kingdom of Thailand were played. Then, the premier of the State Administration Council of our country reviewed the honor guards of the Army, Navy, and Air Force of the Thailand together with the prime minister of the Kingdom of Thailand.

At the airport, Premier Yon Hyong-muk issued an arrival statement. In the arrival statement, he delivered the warm greetings of the Korean people to the Thai people, expressed deep thanks to the government and the people of the Kingdom of Thailand for their kind invitation for the visit to the Kingdom of Thailand and for their reception with a special sense of intimacy. Saying that Korea and Thailand, as Asian developing countries, have had close exchange and cooperation and have developed ties of friendship, he stressed that he firmly believes that the current visit will contribute to further deepening friendship between the people of the two countries of Korea and Thailand and to expanding and developing exchange and cooperation between them.

The flags of our country and the Kingdom of Thailand were raised and welcome placards were placed yesterday along the street from the airport to the hotel, and students and children warmly welcomed the premier and his party along the street, waving the flags of the two countries.

Kim Il-song Sends Message to Yasir 'Arafat

SK2301062891 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0534 GMT 23 Jan 91

[Text] Pyongyang January 23 (KCNA)—President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on January 22 sent a message to Yasir 'Arafat, president of the state of Palestine and chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization, in reply to his message of solidarity supporting the new proposal for national reunification put forward by him in his new year address for 1991.

President Kim Il-song noted in his message that full support of the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian people to our new proposal for national reunification is a great encouragement to the Korean people who are striving to achieve peaceful reunification of the country in the 1990s.

He wished the president, the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian people greater success in their struggle to end the Israeli occupation of the Palestinian territory and found an independent state of Palestine with al-Quds as its capital.

KCNA Reviews 30 Jan Pyongyang Press

SK3001055091 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0406 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] Pyongyang Jan. 30 (KCNA)—Papers here today report that the New Year address of the great leader President Kim Il-song was carried by foreign newspapers. According to NODONG SINMUN, President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea received a message from Harald the Fifth, King of Norway, in reply to his message of condolence sent to the latter on the passing away of Olav the Fifth, king of Norway.

Conveyed in the paper are words of South Korean people deeply revering dear Comrade Kim Chong-il.

Appearing in the paper is a report that the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea exchanged New Year's cards with foreign parties and party leaders.

Foreign newspapers carried articles introducing the secret camp in Mt. Paektu associated with the history of the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle, reports the press.

A NODONG SINMUN article says that Comrade Kim Chong-suk, an indomitable communist revolutionary

fighter, performed undying feats in the Naitoushan defence battle during the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle (Jan. 1936).

"Let Us Make the Whole Society Overflow With the Revolutionary Spirit of Advance, Advance, Struggle and Advance" is the title of a NODONG SINMUN editorial.

Highlighted in papers are reports about continued innovations in the production of coal and irons and steels.

According to the press, Premier Yon Hyong-muk left here and arrived in Bangkok for a visit to Thailand.

Carried in the press is the notice that the premier of the Administration Council of the DPRK will pay an official goodwill visit to the Republic of Indonesia.

Given in the press are accounts of the arrival in Pyongyang of the Japanese Government delegation to participate in the first intergovernmental full-dress talks for the normalisation of DPRK- Japan relations and a reception hosted by the DPRK Government for the delegation.

Given in the press are reports that the world public is condemning the "Team Spirit 91" joint military exercises, demanding a halt to them, and the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean authorities keep staging provocative aerial war exercises.

Papers report that the anti-U.S., anti-war struggle is expanding among South Korean people with the outbreak of the Gulf war and the South Korean "Democratic Party" denounced the authorities' crackdown upon the press.

A commentary of NODONG SINMUN says that the "curfew" imposed on the U.S. Forces present in South Korea with the outbreak of the Gulf war is a step taken in fear of the anti-American resistance of the South Korean people.

A MINJU CHOSON commentary hits out at the No Tae-uo ruling group for intensifying suppression of the democratic forces for reunification.

Conveyed in NODONG SINMUN are voices of the world public saying that the singlehearted unity in which the leader, the party and the masses are integrated as one is the source of the might of Korea.

Conspicuous in the press is news that peoples of all walks of life in Japan demanded an early normalization of the DPRK-Japan diplomatic relations.

Gulf war news columns of the press include reports that Iraq resisted the allied air raid and kept missile attacks on the multinational forces and Israel, and is building huge defence setups, the U.S. troops and allied forces continued indiscriminate air raid on Iraq and anti-Gulf war demonstrations were held in different countries.

Papers inform the readers of the national meeting for commendation held in China.

NODONG SINMUN carries an article "from the class view-point" contributed by Yu. Belov, secretary of the Leningrad regional committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, to the Soviet paper SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA January 16.

In an article, the paper analyses the sustained confrontation between the progress and reaction in El Salvador.

Foreign Policy of 'Independence, Peace' Lauded

SK2301110991 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1023 GMT 23 Jan 91

["Our Republic's Foreign Policy of Independence, Peace and Friendship"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang January 23 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today carries a by-lined article entitled "Our Republic's Foreign Policy of Independence, Peace and Friendship".

It reads in part:

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song said in his New Year address:

"The government of our Republic will continue to adhere firmly to the foreign policy of independence, peace and friendship and make every effort to develop the relations of friendship and cooperation with the peoples of socialist and non-aligned countries and the rest of the people throughout the world."

Independence, peace and friendship, the idea of the foreign policy of our Republic which embodies the chuche idea, are of universal significance in developing international relations in accordance with the requirements of global independence.

The idea of independence, peace and friendship is a just principle of external activities correctly reflecting the present international situation and the requirements of the times.

Today, the world progressive people are struggling against imperialist domination and subjugation and for the establishment of an equitable international order based on independence, against imperialist aggression and war and for defense of world peace and security, against the imperialists' divisive and alienating moves and for the strengthening of friendship and solidarity.

To firmly adhere to independence is a fundamental principle of external activities of the government of our Republic.

The DPRK Government shapes internal and external policies independently according to its own faith and determination, strictly maintaining the independent stand, and firmly safeguards the sovereignty of our country and evaluates and deals with international issues on the basis of independence.

We do not allow others to encroach on our sovereignty and are vigorously struggling against all manner of infringements on the sovereignty of other countries.

We are developing relations with other countries and nations on the principle of complete equality and mutual respect.

Peace is the idea of our Republic's foreign policy.

The DPRK Government and people regard it as an important revolutionary duty, an internationalist duty to strive for peace.

The DPRK Government regards it as the supreme principle of its activities to provide the people with a free, peaceful and happy life. Attaching primary importance to ensuring peace on the Korean Peninsula, a matter directly linked to world peace, the DPRK Government has advanced many peace initiatives and proposals and are making strenuous efforts for their realization.

To promote friendship with the peoples of other countries is a steadfast foreign policy of the DPRK Government. Our people love to live in harmony and unity and want to be on good terms with the peoples of other countries. Proceeding from the tasks and demand of our revolution at present, our people value friendship and solidarity with them.

The government and people of our Republic will continue striving energetically to build a new world, independent, peaceful and friendly, according to the idea of the foreign policy—independence, peace and friendship—whose justice has been proved.

Nampo Revolutionary School Anniversary Celebrated

SK2301062591 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0530 GMT 23 Jan 91

[Text] Pyongyang January 23 (KCNA)—The Nampo Revolutionary School situated in Nampo, a port city on the west coast of Korea, celebrated the 40th anniversary of its founding.

This school is an educational institution of bereaved children for training core reserves of the revolution.

The great leader President Kim Il-song founded this school on January 23, 1951, after putting forward an original policy of educating bereaved children under which the party takes charge of rearing the bereaved children of men and officers of the People's Army and patriotic martyrs who laid down their lives in the valiant struggle for the motherland and people during the Fatherland Liberation War (June 1950-July 1953).

Over the last 40 years, the school has constantly improved educational work and made big achievements in bringing up the children to be successors to the revolutionary cause of chuche armed with the revolutionary outlook on the leader and well prepared mentally, morally and physically, by thoroughly implementing the party's policy of educating bereaved children.

A meeting commemorating the 40th anniversary of its founding was held Tuesday.

The Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea in its congratulatory message to the teachers and pupils of the Nampo Revolutionary School highly praised the school for making great successes in bringing up core reserves of our revolution and performing shining feats for the party and the revolution.

NODONG SINMUN on Team Spirit Statement

SK2901065591 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0453 GMT 29 Jan 91

["Baloney To Justify War Gamble"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang January 29 (KCNA)—The spokesman for the South Korean puppet Defence Ministry described "30 percent scaling down" and "reduction of the period" of the "Team Spirit 91" joint military exercises as a manifestation of their concern for North-South dialogue, while taking pains to make it appear that this war game for a nuclear attack on the northern half of Korea is a mobile exercise aimed at increasing the "capabilities of defence readiness" of the U.S. Forces and the puppet army.

This is a clumsy subterfuge of those who feel a guilty conscience while playing the dangerous war gamble, says NODONG SINMUN in a commentary today.

The news analyst notes:

The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique can never conceal the aggressive and offensive nature of the "Team Spirit 91" and its grave consequences with such baloney about "scaling down," "reduction of period" and "defence."

As they themselves announced, the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets are hurling into the war gamble huge aggression forces from the U.S. mainland and the pacific as well as the U.S. Forces present in South Korea and the puppet army.

Last year the U.S. imperialists started the deployment of their aggression forces in South Korea from the U.S. mainland and their bases overseas early in February. This year, however, they have moved up the date to late January and do not bother to conceal that the exercises will be held till the end of April.

During the war exercises major operations such as joint landing operations, aerial mobile operations, river-crossing operations and commando operations are to be staged as usual.

This tells that this year the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets intend to stage the "Team Spirit 91" for a long period from the beginning of the year on an extensive scale and focus on nuclear attack exercises against the North.

The fact that the South Korean authorities are holding "Team Spirit" with the U.S. imperialist aggression forces this year, too, fully shows that they are not interested at all in North-South dialogue and the question of peace and reunification of the country.

Moreover, it must not go unnoticed that the U.S. imperialist aggressors are staging nuclear war exercises on the Korean peninsula, timing to synchronize with the war in the Gulf region.

This suggests that they are trying to ignite a war on the Korean peninsula, too, just as they did in the Gulf region.

The U.S. imperialists and the puppets must not resort to such clumsy subterfuge to justify their war gamble but immediately and unconditionally stop the "Team Spirit" which is carrying the tension to the extreme pitch and increasing the danger of war on the Korean peninsula and laying grave obstacles in the way of North-South dialogue.

NODONG SINMUN Urges Confederation

SK2901103691 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1003 GMT 29 Jan 91

[Text] Pyongyang January 29 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN in a by-lined article today stresses that to realise the proposal for founding a democratic confederal republic of Koryo [DCRK] which embodies the great principle of defining the way on national reunification is the supreme task of the whole nation, the task which brooks no further delay.

The article quotes the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song as saying:

"We can leave the matter of unifying the different systems in the North and the South to our posterity for its slow but smooth settlement in the future. But we must not delay any longer the matter of establishing a unified state as one nation, transcending the difference in ideas and systems."

It says:

To put a period to the tragedy of national division and reunify the country is the greatest desire of the entire Korean people and the most pressing supreme task of the nation.

Our nation must never prolong the tragedy of national division more than half a century but achieve the independent and peaceful reunification of the country at an early date.

As the great leader clarified in the new year address, under the situation of our country where two different systems exist in the North and South, national reunification should be achieved by establishing a confederation based on one nation, one state, two systems and two governments, on the principle of neither side conquering the other or being conquered by the other.

Our proposal for founding the DCRK is intended to achieve reunification by establishing one united national state over the different systems and governments in the North and South, leaving them as they are.

The proposal shows the best way of achieving national reunification most quickly and easily in the common interests to the nation.

The South Korean authorities claim that a "commonwealth of states" should be established on the basis of the "recognition of entities", namely, the recognition of the two states, on the ground that there are two different systems and governments in the North and South. This is virtually the intention to legalise and freeze the division of the country. And they insist on "unifying systems" for one state and one system, opposing reunification by means of confederation based on two systems and two governments, under the pretext of restoring "homogeneity". This is also intended to keep the country divided for ever and, in the final analysis, means refusing reunification.

South Korea

Additional Support to Gulf Effort Considered

SK3001011791 Seoul YONHAP in English 0056 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 30 (YONHAP)—South Korea may offer 450 million U.S. dollars worth of support additionally to support the U.S.-led alliance in the Persian Gulf, a government official said Wednesday.

The aid, coming on top of cash, personnel and materials worth 220 million dollars, is likely to be given voluntarily in the absence of any request from the United States, he said.

The portion in cash and other details will be announced soon before a government delegation goes to a working-level meeting of Gulf-supporting countries in Washington Feb. 5, he said.

No decision, however, has been made on the size of cash and non-combat personnel including military medical team that would be provided for the allied war effort, he said.

"The U.S. Administration estimates the cost of the war at 500 million dollars a day or 45 billion dollars for three months. Saudi Arabia and Kuwait have already paid 60 percent of the cost, or 27 billion dollars. Japan promised to pay 20 percent, or 9 billion dollars, and the remaining 20 percent will be shared by the United States, Germany, Korea and other countries," the official said.

Korea sent a 154-member military medical team to Saudi Arabia last week. Additional dispatch of military medics is covered by National Assembly approval of the first dispatch, but approval will be needed to send personnel such as aircraft technicians, he said.

In an exclusive interview with YONHAP News Agency Tuesday, U.S. Ambassador Donald Gregg said his government had not asked for any additional support but hoped Korea would act "in its own interest as a friend" of the United States and understood that Seoul was unable to send combat troops.

"We have not asked Korea yet for any additional support. There may well be another request, but I would hope that Korea would feel that by whatever contribution it makes that it is acting in its own interest as a friend of the United States, as a strong member of the association of free nations," Gregg said.

"There is still unfinished business on this peninsula in terms of the threat from the North, so we understand that there is still a threat here. And if Korea decided that it was in its interest to send troops, that would be something that Korea would have to decide for itself, the U.S. envoy said.

No Calls for Readiness To Face North Threat

SK3001061291 Seoul YONHAP in English 0541 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 30 (YONHAP)—The armed forces must stand ready against threats from North Korea now that the Gulf war has demonstrated that a senseless war can be started anywhere by an irrational dictator, President No Tae-u said Wednesday.

It was difficult to expect rational conduct from North Korea, which realizes its deep isolationism and economic woes, so the military should be prepared to defend against an attack without any warning at all, he said after being briefed by Defense Minister Yi Chong-ku on major Defense Ministry policy goals for the year.

"South Korea-U.S. security cooperation, its maintenance and improvement, is more crucial amid fast-changing situations," No said, asking Yi to strengthen bilateral relations. Yi reported that in preparation for a gradual reduction of U.S. Forces in Korea his ministry would step up intelligence gathering and inspection and boost military strength first, and then focus on connecting U.S. strategies in the Asia-Pacific region with Korea's own planning and operations.

The Ministry will analyze and study the Gulf war and use the results to heighten army readiness, he said. Yi also unveiled a plan to put some of the people doing their compulsory military service to work in factories to offset a manpower shortage.

"Since the country lacks almost 79,000 technicians, the Defense Ministry is reviewing plans to use volunteer draftees as technical manpower," Yi said. Of the approximately 50,000 draftees a year, the Ministry is likely to send between 10,000 and 20,000 volunteers to work in factories after initial military training.

The Ministry also plans to assign 1.5 million reservists to the civilian police, Yi said in his report. "The Armed Forces will render all efforts possible to support social stability and economic development," he said.

Reservists doing compulsory training will go on patrol, fill in crime reports, help make arrests and reinforce night-watchmen, but they will not be stationed in busy areas of town, Yi said.

N-S Sports Talks Fail To Form Single Team

SK3001085491 Seoul YONHAP in English 0726 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] Panmunjom, Korea, Jan. 30 (YONHAP)—South and North Korean sports officials failed to make progress in negotiations on the formation of single teams for the world table tennis championships and other international events Wednesday. They were even unable to agree on the date of their next meeting.

During the third round of talks at the truce village of Panmunjom, South Korea made concessions to North Korea on some positions but the North insisted that the South must accept its proposals in their entirety.

In the last sports talks on Jan. 15, the two sides had agreed to form a single team to the world table tennis championships in China, Japan, in April, but they differed on the method of selection, training and naming a team leader. During the 150-minute meeting, chief South Korean delegate Chang Chung-sik said the Southern side would accept North Korea's idea of selecting athletes through a joint screening panel rather than by trial, as the South had proposed. On the team leader, Chang suggested that the leader of the single teams for the table tennis and for the sixth world youth soccer championships should be alternately picked from the two sides.

The youth soccer championship for the FIFA-Coca Cola cup will be held in June in Portugal. FIFA (Federation Internationale de Football Association) is the international governing body of soccer.

Kim Hyong-chin, the North's chief negotiator, stuck to his previous position of joint leadership of the single teams by both sides. Kim also insisted on the joint training of athletes in Japan, against the South's proposal of training in South and North Korea, to stop the talks proceeding. He said that training in South and North Korea would be difficult because of the lack of time and threatened to break off the sports talks "unless the South accepts the reasonable proposals" of North Korea.

The South proposed holding the next meeting Feb. 12 but the North refused to agree, saying that they would inform the South of the date by telephone.

The North Korean side said the South Korea-U.S. "Team Spirit" joint military exercise hampers the atmosphere of the talks and that formation of single Korean teams would be difficult unless the South changed the atmosphere of confrontation.

The South's Chang said his side made efforts to progress by making concessions to the North, but failed because of the stubbornness of the North Korean side.

The North revealed it had no intention to make an agreement by mentioning the Team Spirit exercise in the keynote speech and by not sending liaison officers or guides to the Military Demarcation Line and the conference room, which Chang said was established custom in international negotiations.

The sports talks on the single teams for international events resumed in November, after nine months of suspension, under an agreement in October.

Japan To Insist on Nuclear Inspections of North

SK2901113091 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 28 Jan 91 p 2

[Report by correspondent Kang Sok-chon from Tokyo]

[Text] Nakahira, senior delegate of the Japanese side to the Japan-North Korea relations normalization talks, on 27 January expressed his government's position that unless North Korea accepts the nuclear verification by the International Atomic Energy Agency, Japan cannot accede to North Korea's request for the discussion of the issue concerning compensation.

This is the first time for the Japanese delegate to officially state the policy of a package deal linking the issue of accepting nuclear verification with the issue of compensation.

In an exclusive interview with the Japanese daily MAINICHI SHIMBUN on that day, senior delegate Nakahira stated that "the acceptance of nuclear verification determines whether North Korea is willing to carry out its duty as a member of the international community rather than a condition for its negotiation with Japan." He added that Japan intends to deal with various issues of the full- dress talks as a package deal.

Meanwhile, Chu Chin-kuk, director of No. 1 Department of the North Korean Foreign Ministry who was North Korea's senior delegate to the Japan-North Korea preliminary talks, claimed in a recent interview with the Chongnyon-aligned paper CHOSON SIBO that "the issue of nuclear verification has nothing to do with the North Korea-Japan talks and that the solution to the nuclear issue is being delayed because of the U.S. nuclear threat."

This means that North Korea intends to use the issue of nuclear verification as a card for its negotiation with the United States, therefore, the solution to the issue of nuclear verification may perhaps be found in the U.S.-North Korea talks which may be held in a full-fledged manner some day. This clearly shows that the Japan-North Korea relations normalization talks will be directly affected by the speed of the negotiations between the United States and North Korea.

Japanese Gulf Aircraft Deployment Concerns PPD

SK2701013191 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 27 Jan 91 p 2

[Text] The Party for Peace and Democracy [PPD] Saturday expressed concerns over Japan's decision to dispatch military planes to the Gulf, worried by the specter of Japanese militarism.

"We are keeping a close eye on the decision by the Japanese government to send planes of the Self Defense Corps to the Gulf, which may serve as a precedent for Japanese military intervention in international conflicts," PPD spokesman Pak Sang-chon stated. He added, "We are worried that it may lead to the dispatch of Japanese combat troops to the Gulf."

Pak urged the government to study carefully the motive behind the Japan's decision to determine whether it may be a starting line for Japan to seek military power in the world.

Japanese Patrol Boat Seen in Territorial Waters

SK2301050491 Seoul YONHAP in English 0436 GMT 23 Jan 91

[Text] Ullung, South Korea, Jan. 23 (YONHAP)—A patrol ship of Japan's Maritime Safety Agency briefly violated Korean territorial waters off Tokto Island in the East Sea Tuesday afternoon before heeding a warning to stay away.

As the 400-ton patrol boat, PL No. 103, was spotted approaching 1.5 kilometers from the tiny island at 3:40 PM Tuesday, the police garrison began blaring "stay out of Korean territorial waters" in Japanese through a loud speaker, police said Wednesday.

The ship retreated after sailing around the island for 20 minutes.

Tokto is a source of territorial dispute between Seoul and Tokyo since Korea's liberation from Japanese rule in 1945. The police put the island's security force on alert and reported the incident to the navy and air force just in case.

Trade Mission Opens in PRC; Relations Reviewed

SK3001033991 Seoul YONHAP in English 0258 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] Beijing, Jan. 30 (YONHAP)—South Korea's permanent trade mission in Beijing opened Wednesday amid predictions it will lead to diplomatic relations with China.

Ambassador No Chae-won, chief of the Korea trade representative office, told the 60 Koreans and Chinese at the opening ceremony he hoped the mission would help open a new chapter in bilateral trade and economic cooperation.

The ceremony was attended by a dozen officials from the China Chamber of International Commerce (CCOIC), including Vice Chairman Xu Dayou, who was designated head of China's trade representative office in Seoul. On the Korean side, 10 mission members and a score of businessmen were on hand.

No told reporters the first task of the mission was to encourage China to eliminate discrimination against Korean exporters.

Other tasks are helping Korean trading companies register with the Chinese authorities and exploiting air and other transport routes between the two countries to lay the foundation for the expansion of trade and economic cooperation.

Affirming that he would make efforts to conclude an investment guarantee pact, No said, "I'm starting out my duty without any prejudice but with full confidence."

No arrived at Beijing's Shoudu Airport Sunday evening and Korean reporters accompanying him said the welcome

was low-key. No said Korea was "ocean-bound" in international relations and thus centered diplomacy and trade on Japan, the United States and Western Europe. "But now is a time when we must look for the continent. With this historic opening of a trade mission in the Chinese mainland, we should open a 'continent-bound' era," he said.

No was asked if establishment of formal ties between Seoul and Beijing was likely this year. "There are no reasons to believe it will come this year, but we may be positive about that considering the precedent laid in Korea-Soviet ties," said No, a career diplomat, who was former ambassador to Canada.

Korea and the Soviet Union normalized diplomatic relations on Sept. 30 last year, ending decades of hostility. The Soviet Union and China are staunch allies of North Korea, with whom South Korea fought the fratricidal Korean war 1950-53. Korea has been divided since the end of World War II.

The state-run Korea Trade Promotion Corp. and CCOIC agreed Oct. 20 last year to open trade representative offices in each other's capital.

A Chinese advance team will visit Seoul Feb. 20 to set up the trade office, which will be opened in March. Xu, 62, is said to have been active as a diplomat and was in charge of international trade affairs at the state-run CCOIC.

Soviet Company Predicts Expansion in Steel Trade

SK2301040391 Seoul YONHAP in English 0237 GMT 23 Jan 91

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 23 (YONHAP)—A state-run Soviet company has indicated that it can import 400,000 tons of steel products from South Korea in 1991-1992, predicting a tremendous expansion in Seoul-Moscow steel trade as a result of economic cooperation from South Korea.

O.M. Smirnov, president of the Promsyrio Import Corp., also told a news conference Tuesday that Soviet hot coil and semi-processed steel goods will be shipped to Korea under a barter deal. Promsyrio is the exclusive agent for Soviet steel exports and imports.

Korean steel exports to Moscow jumped from 22,000 tons in 1988 to 85,000 tons in 1989, but sank to 33,000 tons in 1990 because of foreign exchange problems in the Soviet Union. Smirnov said he expected the Seoul-Moscow steel trade to rebound this year because of Korea's economic cooperation with his country and a trend toward barter of Korean steel products and Soviet raw steel.

Smirnov is a member of a Soviet Government delegation to Korea led by Yuriy Maslyukov, deputy prime minister for economic affairs. Smirnov said he hopes to import the whole 177,000 tons of this year's Korean Government offer list, including 126,000 tons of cold rolled sheet, 36,000 tons of pipe, 7,000 tons of special steel and 8,000 tons of zinc-coated steel sheet.

The portion from Korea's economic cooperation and price negotiations will decide if Moscow accepts the complete offer, he said.

Smirnov said the first shipment of Soviet hot coil, 12,000 tons, will arrive in Seoul by the end of January and an official contract has been signed for an additional 24,000 tons of hot coil and 30,000 tons of pig iron. Pohang Iron and Steel Co. and other Korean steelmakers plan to export 20,000 tons of cold rolled sheet this year and to increase imports of hot coil from the Soviet Union.

Smirnov said Promsyrio assigned an employee to Seoul last week to prepare for a sharp increase in bilateral steel trade, which is projected to reach between 400,000 and 500,000 tons annually. Moscow is also looking forward to technological exchanges in steel and environmental protection, he said.

President No Tae-u Sets Foreign Policy Goals

SK2501015691 Seoul KOREA DAILY in English 25 Jan 91 pp 1, 3

[Text] President No Tae-u yesterday told the Foreign Ministry to carry out peace and unification-oriented foreign policies this year in a far-reaching plan to foster an atmosphere ripe for resolution of the Korean question. The President then emphasized the importance of maintaining close relations with the United States. "Consolidation of our ties with the U.S. is important in solidifying our national security, resolving the inter-Korean question and steadily developing our economy," No said.

While receiving a report from Foreign Minister Yi Sang-ok on his ministry's major policy programs for this year, the President also called for the development of future-oriented relations with Japan.

President No said entry into the United Nations should be realized this year if only to lay the groundwork for stability and peaceful unification. "Keep trying to persuade the North to agree on the two Korea's simultaneous admission to the world organization under the goal of attaining entry into United Nations without fail this year," No told Foreign Ministry officials

The President further asked the Ministry to realize diplomatic normalization with China at the soonest possible date, and to step up cooperation with all other Asian and Pacific nations.

In his report, Foreign Minister Yi said his ministry would try to expand cooperative relations with the Soviet Union, especially in complementary areas like trade, investment, construction and resource development. Saying that the government hopes to increase trade volume between Korea and the USSR to the 10-billion-dollar level by the mid-1990s, Yi said his ministry intends to bolster Seoul-Moscow cooperation by regularizing bilateral foreign ministers' and policy consultative meetings.

On the issue of the nation's entry into the United nations, Yi said the Foreign Ministry will endeavor to realize

Seoul's admittance this year by taking advantage of the broader base of international support forged last year.

"Specifically, we will seek positive support from our key allies in this regard while exerting multi-pronged diplomatic efforts to prompt a change in Beijing's stand on this issue," he said.

The minister said the government will first try to realize simultaneous entry of both Koreas. "If this fails, we will promote our admittance first and North Korea's entry later," Minister Yi said.

Diplomatic Ties With Togo Reestablished

SK2301080691 Seoul YONHAP in English 0519 GMT 23 Jan 91

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 23 (YONHAP)—South Korea has reopened diplomatic ties with Togo, severed in 1974, the Foreign Ministry said Wednesday.

Foreign Ministers Yi Sang-ok of Korea and Yaovi Adodo of Togo signed the diplomatic accords in Seoul and Lome and exchanged them through their UN representatives in New York.

Togo became the 146th country with diplomatic ties to Korea. South Korea established diplomatic relations with the West African Country in 1963, but severed them after Togo opened diplomatic ties with North Korea in 1973 amid the cold war. Pyongyang and Lome have close relations, shown by President Gnassingbe Eyadema's visits to North Korea in 1974 and 1981.

No Tae-u Calls for New Farm Management System

SK2301054191 Seoul YONHAP in English 0506 GMT 23 Jan 91

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 23 (YONHAP)—The government should modify the farm management system so it is easier to rezone farm land for industrial or residential use, but it must take care not to spur land speculation, president No Tae-u said Wednesday.

After being briefed by Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Minister Cho Kyong-sik on agricultural policy, the president ordered flexibility in pushing for maximum South Korean gains in the Uruguay Round.

Economic Planning Minister Yi Sung-yun and Cho reported that the government will relax restrictions so farm land can be easily turned over to factory or housing construction. While raising the limit on ownership of agrarian land, the government will double the Agricultural Development Fund to 100 billion won (139.9 million U.S. dollars) by 1996.

No called for drastic improvements in distribution, saying it is necessary to benefit both farmers and consumers. "Autonomous local organizations should repair the distribution system, and agriculture, fisheries and livestock cooperatives should take charge of its reorganization," the president said. No also ordered an extensive study of the food supply and the demand structure and a full report on measures to promote growth of the agro-fishery product processing industry.

Ramifications of Seoul-Moscow Communique Viewed

* New Political Order

912C0080A Seoul MAEIL KYONGJE SINMUN in Korean 18 Dec 90 p 3

[Article by reporter Kim Song-sun: "The Emergence of a New Order in the Era of ROK-USSR Partnership Ushered in by the Moscow Communique"]

[Text] The Moscow communique presages the advent of a new order in the Northeast Asian region surrounding the Korean peninsula.

The Moscow communique, officially called the "Declaration of the General Principles Governing ROK-USSR Relations," signifies that the cold war, which has ended in Europe, is now about to end on the Korean peninsula as well.

Accordingly, attention is now focused on what kind of change will take place in the international political order following the Moscow communique.

The Moscow communique, signed by the highest leaders of the ROK and the Soviet Union, is expected, first of all, to hasten the pace of political moves by the neighboring countries who have interlocked direct interests in the Korean peninsula.

The set of bilateral international relations which needs to be considered in connection with the question of terminating the cold war and achieving a lasting peace on the Korean peninsula is: ROK-PRC, Japan-North Korea, United States-North Korea, and Japan-USSR relations.

First, ROK-PRC relations currently stay at the level where the two sides have agreed to exchange trade offices. However, experts predict that spurred by the Moscow ROK-USSR joint communique, ROK-PRC relations will develop into the stage of establishing diplomatic relations.

True, until now China has been one step behind the Soviet Union in improving its relations with our country. But, China now no longer needs to factor its relations with North Korea into the improvement of its relations with the ROK.

China caused the ROK efforts to gain entry into the United Nations to be put off until next year, and thus, we would say that China succeeded in saving North Korea's face fully.

As a matter of fact, China has tried to induce inter-Korean dialogues by allowing North Korea to mark time. North Korea now finds itself in an awkward position to make any further demand.

At the same time, the normalization talks in progress between Japan and North Korea are also expected to pick up speed.

The preliminary talks in Beijing last week between Japan and North Korea, apparently prompted by the Moscow communique, reached an agreement to hold a full-dress session in Pyongyang next January.

The talks for the normalization of relations between Japan and North Korea, despite the questions of reparations for damage done in the period of the colonial rule and compensations for postwar damage, are expected to be wound up by next spring if things go smoothly.

With regard to U.S.-North Korea relations, working-level contacts have been under way in Beijing; and according to reports, the level of the contacting officials of the two sides will be upgraded next year. According to experts on international politics, next year there will be visible developments in the improvement of United States-North Korea relations.

Most probably, Japan was shocked more than any other country by the ROK-USSR Moscow communique.

Japan, whose relations with the Soviet Union are complicated by the question of having its four Soviet-held northern islands returned, secretly dispatched a high-level diplomat to Seoul while the ROK-USSR normalization talks were in progress, in order to express its apprehension that any sudden progress in ROK-USSR relations would affect the Japan-USSR negotiations for the return of these islands.

As if reflecting the position of Japan, which is showing a more sensitive reaction to ROK-USSR relations than any other country, Japanese journalists were feverish in their coverage of President No Tae-u's visit to the Soviet Union.

Meticulously checking President No's schedule, Japanese reporters even followed him to Leningrad, where he stayed overnight after practically completing his official itinerary for his Soviet visit.

Probably, this was quite natural for Japanese journalists in view of the fact that Japan is yet to engage the Soviet Union in a diplomatic showdown. But it is indicative of how the tempo of ROK-USSR relations which is faster than Japan-USSR relations is "shocking" to Japan.

The leaders of all the neighboring countries are scheduled to visit Seoul next year. This, along with the progress being made in the bilateral relations among the countries centering on the ROK, indicates that the Korean peninsula will become the main stage of international politics.

Beginning with Japanese Prime Minister Kaifu's visit to Seoul, Soviet President Gorbachev and U.S. President Bush are scheduled to visit our country; and according to reports, there is even the possibility that a United States-USSR summit meeting will be held in our country.

Inasmuch as the issues concerning the Korean peninsula will clearly be the main subject at the summit meetings successively to take place in our country, it is expected that the entangled issue of achieving a lasting peace will begin to unravel next year.

No doubt, inter-Korean relations are ultimately the essential factor in establishing a new order for peace in the Northeast Asian region surrounding the Korean peninsula.

Even when the schedule of President No's Soviet visit was announced, North Korea participated in the third inter-Korean talks in Seoul, a fact which indicates changes in the attitude of North Korea.

Needless to say, behind this change the invisible influence of the Soviet Union and China was at work, and in addition, North Korea's desire to improve its relations with Japan and the United States operated as a compound factor.

As repeatedly emphasized by President No during his summit talks with President Gorbachev, it is the consistent position of our government that the bilateral relationships among the countries surrounding the Korean peninsula, let alone the ROK-USSR relationship, should be directly linked to any endeavor to achieve a lasting peace in the Korean peninsula.

Accordingly, the dominant view is that at least to prevent the new international climate which is being created in Northeast Asia from becoming an obstruction to the reunification of Korea, our government should maximize its diplomatic efforts.

* Efforts To End Cold War

912C0080B Seoul MAEIL KYONGJE SINMUN in Korean 19 Dec 90 p 3

[Article by reporter Pak Si-yong: "New Detente and the Korean peninsula in the Era of ROK-USSR Partnership Ushered in by the Moscow Communique"]

[Text] The foremost immediate reason the ROK-USSR summit and the Moscow communique have a historic significance is that the two states have pledged to make joint efforts to end the cold war on the Korean peninsula and in the Asia-Pacific region .

This commitment raises the hope that the wave of disarmament which has swept Europe in the past several years, and the tide of new detente which has set in in the form of the reunification of Germany and in other forms against the backdrop of this wave, will visibly spread to the Northeast Asian region.

Is the Moscow communique which confirmed the principle of refraining from the use of arms on the Korean peninsula, as well as the friendly and cooperative relationship between the ROK and the Soviet Union, really a signal heralding the advent of the era of new detente, including the end of the cold war and the achievement of disarmament in this part of the world?

It is not easy to find an answer to this question under the circumstances when the political and military interests of the four powers, namely, the United States, Japan, China, and the Soviet Union, are far more complexly interlocked in the Asia-Pacific region than in Europe. But experts are agreed that the Moscow communique has turned on the motor to bring about an end to the cold war.

First, the declaration of the position of the ROK and the Soviet Union favoring friendly relations between the two countries and opposing the use of arms in the Korean peninsula will probably serve as momentum for expediting inter-Korean disarmament negotiations by providing North Korea with a greater motivation for disarmament.

In other words, with the Moscow communique as momentum, it is expected that the Soviet Union will cease to step up its military support to North Korea, and as a consequence, North Korea will have no choice but to abandon its military confrontation with South Korea because it is impossible for her singlehandedly to counter the ROK-U.S. military alliance. (Professor Kim Pu-ki, member of the Foreign Relations and Security Institute)

Moreover, in the Moscow ROK-USSR joint communique, President Gorbachev, who played a decisive role in achieving disarmament in Europe, expressed his interest in the question of disarmament in the Northeast Asian region, and it is expected that the communique will put pressures on North Korea and prompt discussions of the disarmament issue involving the Korean peninsula and Northeast Asia. (Professor Yu Sok-yol, the Foreign Relations and Security Institute)

In the final analysis, the Moscow communique is expected to provide a greater motivation for disarmament to North Korea and invigorate inter-Korean dialogues and discussions on the disarmament issue between North and South Korea.

Some analysts say that the Moscow communique, even if it may not directly lead to the discussion of the disarmament issue, will put pressures on North Korea to open its door, thereby contributing to the relaxation of tension and the spread of new detente. Judging from the way North Korea reacted and expressed its displeasure before and after the establishment of ROK-USSR diplomatic relations, North Korea is expected to continue to slander the ROK-USSR joint communique, using such words as "flunkeyist diplomacy" and "an act of betrayal to socialism."

Nonetheless, North Korea will ultimately have no choice but to seek improvement in its relations with Japan and the United States, accepting the normalization of relations between the ROK and the Soviet Union and the resulting new order in Northeast Asia as a fait accompli. (Professor Choe Chong-ki, Seoul National University)

Of course, until now North Korea has expressed its dissatisfaction with the improvement in ROK-USSR relations in various forms but to no avail. Therefore, observers bet on the possibility that North Korea will keep silent externally, but internally, step up indoctrination designed to highlight the negative aspects of perestroyka.

However, seen from a long-range perspective, North Korea has no alternative but to embark upon the road of actively seeking improvement in its relations with Western countries, such as Japan and the United States. (Kim Chang-su, senior research fellow at the National Defense Institute)

As a consequence of the Moscow communique and the resultant advent of the era of ROK-USSR partnership, the possibilities of the relaxation of tension in the Korean peninsula and disarmament have increased, and this at once presages the possibility of a new security order or disarmament in the whole of Northeast Asia.

Needless to say, the relaxation of tension in the Korean peninsula is not a precondition for disarmament or the rearrangement of security order in the Asia-Pacific region. But any discussion of disarmament in this region without regard to the state of military confrontation between North and South Korea cannot but be regarded as unrealistic.

However, the military balance in Northeast Asia has been kept by the U.S. policy of maintaining the status quo, with the ROK-United States and United States-Japan alliances against the Soviet Union and North Korea as its backbone, to the preclusion of efforts to build a collective security stricture in this region. Nonetheless, according to observers, with the current Gulf crisis as momentum, chances are high that the United States will show flexibility with regard to the disarmament issue on the Korean peninsula as long as its naval power is not affected directly.

Therefore, despite little immediate prospect for building a collective security stricture, measures such as the holding of peace conferences are expected to be taken in the long run. (Professor Kim Pu-ki)

Fundamentally, the issue of securing peace in Northeast Asia is inseparably related to two regional conditions, namely, inter-Korean dialogues and the good neighborly relations between the ROK and the Soviet Union and between the ROK and China. Given this interrelationship, therefore, the Moscow communique is expected to have a positive impact on building a collective security consultative machinery because the communique is an expression of the Soviet readiness to actively strive for a lasting peace in Northeast Asia.

At the same time, in the Moscow joint communique, the Soviet Union made it clear that it will not support the North Korean demand for tripartite talks among North and South Korea and the United States. (Choe Mun-hyon, chief of policy planning, the National Unification Board)

However, it should not be overlooked that in spite of the Moscow joint communique, there still remain some obscure aspects to the question of building a Northeast Asian collective security arrangement.

For one thing, in the execution of its Northeast Asian policy, the Soviet Union will have to focus its efforts on establishing its position as a member of the Asia-Pacific community. For another thing, in reality there are many barriers in building a European-type collective security system in this region, where the neighboring big powers have been hostile to one another in the cold war mechanism for over 40 years. (Professor Choe Chong-ki)

In conclusion, we would say it is hardly deniable that the ROK-USSR summit and joint communique, although they may not insure an early end to the cold war or an early achievement of disarmament in Northeast Asia, will be conducive to expediting the process of pulling this part of the world out of the cold war.

* DLP Plans Parliamentary Election Law Revision

912C0097 Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean 20 Dec 90 p 1

[Text] The DLP (Democratic Liberal Party) completed a proposal to revise the parliamentary election law which it plans to submit and pass at the National Assembly's January special session. According to the DLP proposal, approximately 40 additional local constituency seats will be created and the national constituency seats will be reduced from the current one-third of the total constituency seats to one-fourth.

Under the current law there are 224 local constituency seats and 75 national constituency seats, for a total of 299 seats. According to the DLP plan, there will be 264 local constituency seats and 66 national constituency seats, for a total of 330 seats.

On 20 December, at the National Assembly meeting hall, the DLP Secretary General Chong Sun-tok announced: "We are planning to pass the revised Parliamentary Election Law at the special January session by fully utilizing the 10-member Special Committee for Revising the Parliamentary Election Law, which was established in September."

According to a comment related to this issue made by a high-level DLP official, "as of 1 November, based on the results of the government's careful studies of the population census, the government decided to reshuffle the Assembly seats to 330 to adjust to the noticeable population increase shown since the 13th National Assembly election. The necessary internal preparation is mostly done."

According to the new proposal, the current six districts which have more than three counties will be redivided. Considering the population concentrations in the cities—Seoul's more than 700,000; other self-governed cities of more than 600,000—the general cities, counties, and districts, of more than 500,000 will be changed to three representatives from their current two.

An agreement for the National Assembly to establish a special committee to review and revise the National Assembly Law and the Parliamentary Election Law has already been made between the ruling and opposition parties.

According to various sources, due to the Constitution Court's verdict that the current election law is unconstitutional because the amount of money required by law for all candidates to deposit when they register for election is different for the party nominated and the independent candidates, the law must be corrected by next May. Also other areas, such as the rules for election campaigns and the punishments for election law violations, etc., need to be changed as well.

The local election districts to be changed are mostly big cities like Seoul/12, Pusan/6, Taegu/4, and also the six districts where more than three counties made one representative district.

Based on the Assembly seat recount plan, additional seats are distributed mostly to Seoul and Kyonggi Province; Pusan, Taegue and the Kyongsang Provinces of the Yongnam region; and the Honam region, which only has four including one in Kwangju.

Following are the redistributed seats:

- Seoul (12); Yongsan, Tongdaemun (A), Songbuk, Tobong (A), Nowon (B), Yangchon (A), Yongdungpo, Kuro, Kwanak, Kangnam, Kandgong, Songpa (B)
- Pusan (6); Pusanjin, Tongnae, Kumjong, Saha, Pusan (South), Kangso
- Taegu (4); Taegu (North), Taegu (East), Susong, Talso
- Inchon, Kyonggi Province (8); Inchon (Central, East), Inchon (North), Kwangmyong, Kwachon-Sihung, Puchon, Songnam, Suwon, Anyang
- Kangwon Province (1); Chunsong-Yanggu-Inje
- Taejon, North Chungchong Province (3); Taejon (Central), Sosan City-County-Taean, Poun-Okchon-Yongdong
- Kwangju, North Cholla Province (4); Kwangju (North), Chinan-Muju-Changsu, Kanjin-Wando, Haenam-Chindo
- North Kyongsang Province (2); Pohang, Kyongsan City-County-Chongdo County
- South Kyongsang Province (3); Masan, Changwon, Chungmu-Tongyong-Kosong.

* Samsung Settles Chip Patent Dispute With TI

WA2201023091 Seoul MAEIL KYONGJE SINMUN in Korean 24 Dec 90 p 17

[Text] Samsung Electronics and Texas Instruments [TI] have settled a patent issue involving DRAM [dynamic random access memory] chips, and it is anticipated that the two companies will not encounter further patent disputes. In 1987, Samsung signed a patent agreement with TI after experiencing what was called a "patent nightmare." The current agreement is due to expire at the end of 1990, and the two companies have held patent negotiations since the beginning of the year.

The new agreement will be effective for five years starting in 1991. The details of the contract are not known. However, based on the fact that TI demanded royalties amounting to 10 percent, while Samsung insisted on a figure below the current seven to eight percent, experts in the field believe that the agreed royalty payments are at the same level as in previous years. The cross-licensing agreement materialized only after TI filed suits against eight companies, including Samsung and Toshiba.

Toshiba agreed to pay TI a larger royalty share without extending the contract period from the normal five years to 10 years. Samsung and other companies, including Hitachi and Mitsubishi, have been pressured to accept extended contractual periods and increased royalties. Samsung has more than 100 foreign patents in the semiconductor field, and it is understood that TI will recognize many of them as being applied to cross-licensing agreements with Samsung.

As a pioneer in the DRAM field, TI holds numerous patents directly related to DRAM's, and has earned hefty royalties through cross-licensing. However, in terms of production and technology, TI lags behind Japan's Toshiba, Hitachi, and Samsung. In the case of 1M DRAM's, Toshiba and Hitachi are competing for first place in the world, each holding more than 30 percent of the global market, while Samsung is judged to hold third place, or 20 percent. In fact, only these three companies have succeeded in trial-producing 16M DRAM's, with TI lagging behind the Asian leaders.

Last year Samsung sold 900 billion won [$1.3 billion] worth of semiconductors, raising the company's world ranking to 13th position. In the area of memory chips, Samsung ranks eighth. As a slow starter behind U.S. and Japanese companies, Samsung is devoting about 20 percent of its total average annual sales to acquire technological know-how and pay for licensing arrangements.

During 1989, Samsung signed 14 technical contracts with foreign companies worth 140 billion won [$200 million]. Hyundai Electronics and Goldstar Electronics also are spending 20 percent of their sales revenues on licensing and technology import agreements.

Even though Samsung and TI reached a satisfactory settlement this time, one cannot anticipate which Korean company will be challenged by a foreign company in the future, because there are simply too many types of patents in existence. The only way Korean companies can be saved from licensing-related pressure from foreign firms is to increase the number of ROK-owned patents by applying for many foreign patents. It is time to increase funding for research and development.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Mahathir Under 'Severe Criticism' for Gulf Stand

BK3001014391 Bangkok THE NATION in English 30 Jan 91 p A6

[By Sonny Inbaraj]

[Text] Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad's support for the United Nations Resolution 678 to use force to evict Iraqi forces from Kuwait is coming under severe criticism in the country, observers said yesterday.

K. Gurunathan, editor of the Penang-based political monthly ROCKET said there were leaflets attacking Mahathir left behind when a group of people last Wednesday used iron pipes to smash a glass wall of a branch of the London-based Standard Chartered Bank in the northern Malaysian town of Butterworth protesting against the attack on Iraq.

He said the leaflets depicted Mahathir as "the son of US President George Bush.

"Many Malays feel that Mahathir has let them down by supporting UN Resolution 678 in what they see as an approval for the use of force on a brother Muslim nation," he said.

Malaysia's politically dominant Muslim Malays make up half of the 17.4 million population in the country.

Social scientist Dr Chandra Muzaffar of the reform group Aliran in a telephone interview with THE NATION said the Malaysian government had got itself into an "international mess".

"UN Resolution 678 is for the sanctioning of a war and what Malaysia should have done is either to vote against it or just abstain. I guess the thought about the repercussions back home slipped Mahathir's mind when he instructed Malaysia's permanent UN representative to vote for the resolution," he said.

Dr Chandra said groundswell support for Iraq was increasing day by day in the country and this has made the Malaysian government realize that it made a "short-sighted" move concerning the UN Resolution.

"About 95 percent of the Malays are against what the United States is doing in the Gulf War. They (the Malays) feel the United States is wrong in bombarding Iraq, which in their minds is a poor Muslim Third World country."

"It doesn't matter if Saddam Husayn behaved like a bad Muslim whan he invaded Kuwait, a smaller Muslim nation. The fact remains, the US-led multi-national force which comprises of people of other faith are using their superior air-power to bombard a Muslim country," Dr Chandra said.

Dr Chandra said the behaviour of Malaysian Muslims as a reaction to the Gulf War was quite expected.

"During the Indo-Pakistani War in 1971, Muslims in Malaysia supported Pakistan. It doesn't matter who's right or wrong. It's a known fact that Muslims will rally behind Muslims regardless of the situation and the feelings of many Malays have been hurt by the US-led bombing."

On the recruitment of Malaysian Muslims by the fundamentalist Parti Islam Malaysia (PAS) to fight for Iraq in the Gulf War, Dr Chandra said this was something that was expected of the party.

He said this move by PAS should not be seen as something done by a group of fanatics, because the party had initially condemned Iraq when it invaded Kuwait on August 2 last year.

"When the massive mobilizatiion of troops into Saudi Arabia led by the United States began, PAS like other Muslims all over the world began to question US motives."

Dr Chandra said Premier Mahathir is trying to "undo" his mistake in supporting the UN Resolution 678 and for that reason is actively trying to host an international conference to find ways to end the Gulf War.

"Mahathir's reputation now is at stake among the Malays and the longer the war drags on, the stronger will be the sentiment for Iraq, and the premier's political career could be on the line."

AP adds: More than 800 Muslim volunteers have signed up to fight alongside Iraqi forces in the Gulf war and to engage in non-combat medical and welfare work, an Islamic opposition group said yesterday.

The Pan Malaysian Islamic Party, which claims a membership of 300,000, expects more than 10,000 volunteers to sign up to fight or otherwise aid Iraqi troops under attack by a US-led allied force seeking to drive Iraq from Kuwait.

DPRK Premier To Arrive on Official Visit 4 Feb

BK3001084291 Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0600 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] North Korean Prime Minister Yon Hyong-muk will make a four-day official visit to Kuala Lumpur on Monday. The Foreign Ministry said during the visit, Mr. Yon would be granted an audience with his majesty the king and held discussions with Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir Mohamed on bilateral, regional, and international issues.

Premier Yon will also meet with the [words indistinct]. He will also be visiting the Rubber Research Institute, the Palm Oil Research Institute, the Malaysian Tourist Information Center, and [words indistinct].

Cambodia

Khieu Samphan: Resistance Supports Early Talks

BK3001021991 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 29 Jan 91

["Interview given by Khieu Samphan, Cambodian vice president in charge of foreign affairs, to representatives of the Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea and Voice of Democratic Kampuchea radios on 29 January"—read by announcers]

[Text] [First Announcer] Greetings to Your Excellency, the vice president. At present, the settlement of the Cambodian problem is deadlocked due to the fact that the Hanoi Vietnamese aggressors and their puppet-lackeys have opposed the peace plan of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council [UNSC]. It is reported that the two cochairmen of the Paris conference will soon go to Hanoi. How will this trip help accelerate a solution to the Cambodian problem?

[Second Announcer] According to reliable news, the Paris conference cochairmen will visit Hanoi on 1 and 2 February in an effort to reconvene the meeting of the Coordinating Committee of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia [PICC] in line with the Paris joint communique dated 23 December 1990. How successful will the two cochairmen's trip be? Will Vietnam agree to attend the Coordinating Committee's meeting, will it take an alternative course or set any conditions? Here is my opinion on these questions:

1. The three Cambodian national resistance forces still adhere to our three Cambodian national resistance forces' joint letter dated 14 January 1991 calling for an early reconvening of the PICC Coordinating Committee in line with the Paris joint communique dated 23 December 1990.

2. We continue to stand firm on the documents dated 28 August 1990 and 26 November 1990, and demand that Vietnam and its puppets to accept these documents fully and without any alterations.

3. The people of the world have clearly seen who are the good and who the tricky are, creating obstacles to the settlement of the Cambodian problem.

The people of the world in general have seen that the three Cambodian national resistance forces sincerely want to settle the Cambodian problem comprehensively through political means.

The people of the world know that the obstacles are from Vietnam and the Phnom Penh puppets. In the Vietnamese war of aggression against Cambodia that has lasted for over 12 years now, the world has never seen the evil face of Vietnam and its puppets as clearly as now. During the Jakarta meeting in September 1990, they were compelled to accept the Jakarta joint communique, but they opposed it after the meeting. During the Paris meeting in December 1990, they were compelled to accept the Paris joint communique, but they opposed it after the meeting.

Until today, there has been no sign showing that the Hanoi Vietnamese aggressors have changed their aggressive and expansionist stance against Cambodia. They have launched maneuvers to oppose and destroy the documents of the five permanent members. That is one thing. Another thing is, on the battlefield of aggression against Cambodia, the Vietnamese aggressors have continued to send fresh troops from Vietnam. I would like to inform you that on 5 January, a 10,000-ton capacity Soviet ship brought war materiel to Kompong Som Port for Vietnam.

All of this clearly shows that Vietnam has continued mobilizing its forces while the Soviet Union has continued to assist Vietnam in intensifying military activities to seize liberated zones from our Cambodian national resistance forces both on Battambang-Route 10 battlefield and elsewhere deeper inside Cambodia. But these Vietnamese plans have been frustrated successively by our Cambodian national resistance forces.

[First Announcer] If the Vietnamese aggressors and their puppet- lackeys persist in opposing these documents, can the Coordinating Committee hold its meeting?

[Second Announcer] If we wait for Vietnam's consent before holding the meeting, it is certainly impossible. Vietnam will certainly not agree, but will redirect the attention elsewhere. It will certainly set all kinds of conditions to avoid the Coordinating Committee from holding this meeting.

The only way to deal with the Vietnamese aggressors is to pressure them tightly. Past experiences clearly prove this. In Jakarta, they were compelled to accept the Jakarta joint communique in September because we pressured them. In Paris, they were compelled to accept the 23 December joint communique also because they were pressured. In the future, this same measure should be applied. Only by tightly and strongly pressuring them will they not decline accepting the documents dated 28 August and 26 November 1990.

As for the convening of the PICC Coordinating Committee, our three Cambodian national resistance forces support an early convening of the committee.

VOK Interviews Sihanouk Aide on UN Peace Role

BK3001123791 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0430 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Interview with Keo Put-Reaksmei, official in charge of foreign affairs at the office of Sihanouk's personal representative in Cambodia and Asia, by unidentified station correspondent; place, date not given—recorded]

[Summary] [Correspondent] The Heng Samrin regime recently alleged that the enhancement of the UN role is a maneuver aimed at toppling the State of Cambodia at the negotiating table. What is your opinion on the allegation?

[Keo Put-Reaksmei] As we already know, the UN framework document has not been worked out by the Cambodian parties. "It is a blueprint hammered out by the Big Five permanent members of the UN Security Council and approved by the entire council and the UN General Assembly as the basic document for resolving the Cambodian problem. Therefore, the accusation by the Heng Samrin regime that the document is a tactic to overthrow the Vietnamese-installed illegal communist regime in Phnom Penh shows contempt for the United Nations." The UN document provides the Cambodian people with the ability to enjoy their right to self-determination, to choose their own destiny via elections. The UN Security Council blueprint is the unique document for comprehensively settling the Cambodian problem, which is the Vietnamese occupation of Cambodia.

"With regard to the dissolution of the Phnom Penh regime, we need neither the framework document nor the United Nations. The regime will ultimately dissolve on its own or the entire Cambodian people, who love peace, liberty, independence, and neutrality, will certainly overthrow it one day because the regime was not born from the genuine goodwill of our people." "The accusation that the United Nations intends to dismantle the regime is only a dream and a mistake." "If the leaders of the present-day Phnom Penh regime decide to come in out of the rain, it will be wise for them to accept the implementation of the framework document on time."

[Correspondent] The Heng Samrin regime has alleged that the Cambodian National Resistance has brought nothing to the negotiating table, meaning the resistance has made no concessions for the settlement of the Cambodian problem. What is your view of this claim?

[Keo Put-Reaksmei] "The allegation has more clearly shown that the Phnom Penh regime has made a great mistake in assessing the general situation of the Cambodian issue. In fact, the purpose of establishing the Cambodian National Resistance was neither for making nor not making concessions to the Heng Samrin regime. Our objective is to do whatever we can to wrest back Cambodia's independence from Vietnam and to provide the Cambodian people with an opportunity to again enjoy happiness and peace. After the complete Vietnamese withdrawal from Cambodia, the people will be able to express their aspirations through free and just elections. This is the perception of our tripartite resistance coalition, the aim of the current persistent struggle of the Cambodian National Resistance, and the reason for our full support for the UN framework document which has the goal of achieving the above-mentioned two objectives.

"Therefore, the settlement of the Cambodian problem is not at all based on making or not making concessions. That is because the Heng Samrin regime in Phnom Penh at present is neither a legal regime nor a regime that the entire people support. As such, it is not our tripartite resistance's concern to make concessions to the illegally Vietnamese-installed communist regime which has oppressed the people and caused them to suffer." Our consent for the Phnom Penh regime to run in the elections is one of our great concessions. This is because we want to settle the Cambodia problem quickly.

The UN document does not take sides with any party. Its main goal is to restore independence to Cambodia and happiness to the Cambodian people. "The Phnom Penh regime's need for other concessions is aimed at nothing else than keeping Cambodia under the Vietnamese aggressors' communist regime. This is why the Phnom Penh regime wants us to make concessions. Our National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia can in no way make such concessions."

[Correspondent] Recently there was a report that the cochairmen of the Paris conference on Cambodia and the deputy UN secretary general planned to visit Vietnam soon to discuss the Cambodian peace process with the Vietnamese leadership. In your opinion, what is the importance of the visit and what is the further role Vietnam should play to achieve a definitive agreement on a comprehensive political settlement of the Cambodian problem in accordance with the UN Security Council peace plan?

[Keo Put-Reaksmei] The planned visit shows that Vietnam itself is a country that has great responsibility in the Cambodian peace process. Otherwise, the Paris conference cochairmen would not go to Hanoi and sound out this or that matter related to the settlement of the Cambodian problem. This also demonstrates that the cochairmen and the representative of the UN secretary general want to have the Cambodian issue resolved as quickly as possible, meaning they want to reconvene the Paris international conference in the near future. "By all means, this shows that both Phnom Penh and Hanoi, which are painstakingly manipulating the situation in order to dodge the implementation of the framework document, are moving down the wrong path in contradiction of worldwide opinion—particularly that of the United Nations, which enthusiastically welcomed the settlement of the Cambodian problem in conformity with the framework document."

On Vietnam's participation in the Second Paris International Conference on Cambodia: "We have been aware that since the first international conference in August 1989 and since Vietnam issued the misleading announcement that it completely withdrew its troops from Cambodia on 26 September 1989, Vietnam has repeatedly stated that it is no longer interested in the countries in Southeast Asia, and therefore, Vietnam will have no reason whatsoever to refuse to attend the conference or tell the cochairmen that it will not participate in the second international conference."

"We hope that if the Paris international conference is reconvened, Vietnam will not be able to refuse to attend and will certainly be forced by the international community to accept the UN role in the settlement of the Cambodian problem." Vietnam's role is to accept the UN peace plan for Cambodia and to order the Phnom Penh regime to accept that role. If Vietnam refuses, this will

mean that Vietnam opposes the Big Five and the international community but not the other Cambodian parties.

National Assembly Discusses State Plan 30 Jan

BK3001060491 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] The 20th ordinary session of our State of Cambodia's First National Assembly continued its work this morning.

At this third day session National Assembly members heard the discussion on the report on implementation of the 1990 state plan and the 1991 targets.

Joined in this morning's discussion were Comrade Hun Sen, chairman of the Council of Ministers; Comrade General Tie Banh, minister of national defense; Comrade General Sin Song, minister of the interior; Comrade Cha Rieng, chairman of the Cambodian people's national bank; Comrade Cheam Yiem, director general of tourism; and Comrade Un Noeng, National Assembly member for Kompong Thom constituency.

The session adjourned temporarily at 1050 and will resume its work this afternoon.

Hun Sen Thanks Indian Premier for Greetings

BK2701062191 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 27 Jan 91

[Text] Comrade Hun Sen, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the State of Cambodia [SOC], recently sent a message of thanks to his Indian counterpart, His Excellency Chandra Shekhar.

The message read: On behalf of the government and the entire people of the SOC as well as in my own name, I would like to sincerely thank Your Excellency for the best wishes you conveyed to me on the 12th anniversary of our Cambodian people's national day.

May you have the best of health and every success in the implementation of your noble task.

Indian Leaders Greet Heng Samrin on Anniversary

BK2301054291 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0428 GMT 23 Jan 91

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK January 23—Heng Samrin, president of the Council of State of Cambodia, has received warm greetings from his Indian counterpart, R. Venkataraman, on the 12th national day of the State of Cambodia (Jan.7).

The congratulatory message said:

"On behalf of the government and people of India, I convey with great pleasure our warm felicitations on the happy occasion of the national day of the State of Cambodia.

"It is our hope that the existing friendly and cooperative relations between our two countries and peoples will be further strengthened in the years to come.

"Please accept, Excellency, my best wishes for your health and happiness and for the progress and presperity of the friendly people of Cambodia."

Also on the same occasion, Hor Namhong, foreign minister of the State of Cambodia, has received congratulations from his Indian counterpart, Vidhya Charan Shukla.

Laos

Phoumi Vongvichit Receives Chinese Delegation

BK3001041591 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] On the afternoon of 29 January, Phoumi Vongvichit, acting president of the republic and chairman of the Lao Front for National Construction [LFNC] Central Committee, received at the Presidential Office in Vientiane a courtesy call from a delegation of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Council [CPPCC] led by Hong Xuezhi, vice chairman of the Council National Committee.

On this occasion, Acting President Phoumi Vongvichit, on behalf of the Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], welcomed Hong Xuezhi and the CPPCC delegation's visit to Laos, which he said has strengthened the friendship between the LPDR and the PRC as well as between the LFNC Central Committee and the CPPCC National Committee. Hong Xuezhi thanked the Lao side for the warm welcome. He also conveyed best regards from Li Xiannian, chairman of the CCPCC National Committee, to the chairman of the LFNC Central Committee. The chairman of the CCPCC National Committee also invited the chairman of the LFNC Central Committee to visit the PRC at an appropriate time. Phoumi Vongvichit has accepted the invitation with thanks.

The host and the guest also took this occasion to inform each other of the great achievements recorded in carrying out modifications in building the socioeconomic and technical foundations in the recent past. The two sides also expressed satisfaction over the time-honored relations of friendship, and expressed conviction that the long-standing traditional friendship and solidarity between Laos and China will be increasingly enhanced with each passing day.

The CCPCC delegation will leave for home on 30 January at the end of their seven-day visit to Laos.

Phoun Sipaseut Chairs Sixth Meeting of Diplomats

BK3001052191 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1200 GMT 29 Jan 91

[Text] Phoun Sipaseut, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and minister of foreign affairs, presided over an opening ceremony of the sixth meeting of Lao diplomats in Vientiane this morning. The meeting, which will continue for three days, is attended by Lao ambassadors and charges d'affaires to foreign countries, staff directors

of the Foreign Affairs Ministry, diplomatic experts, and representatives from various ministries.

The purposes of the meeting are to concretize the line and policies of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee and discuss ways and means to effectively implement diplomatic work to cope with the new changes in all branches of the service for the Lao People's Democratic Republic. The participants will also discuss how to practically translate into reality the correct strategy and tactics of the party and organize and review tasks that must be consolidated, in particular the key points of the foreign line and policy of peace, independence, friendship, and cooperation, and the broadening and balancing of relations and cooperation in all respects with foreign countries and various international organizations. They will also discuss a number of other issues.

In the meeting, every participant is urged to maintain a high determination and a spirit of responsibility and to be ready to effect changes in a timely manner. Participants will also discuss in depth all issues that must be settled during the modification period.

Cooperation Memorandum Signed With Hanoi Visitors

BK3001101691 Vientiane KPL in English 0853 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] Vientiane, Jan 30 (KPL)—Vientiane Capital of Laos and Hanoi Capital of Vietnam signed here on January 28 a memorandum on the economic and cultural cooperation, reports "Vientiane Mai" newspaper today.

The signatories were Mr. Sisavat Keobounphan, secretary of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee and secretary of Vientiane Capital Party Committee, and Mr. Pham The Duyet, secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee and secretary of Hanoi Capital party committee.

The memorandum stipulates that the two sides will further promote the overall relations and economic and cultural cooperation for 1991 and the following years on the basis of the new thinking pursued by the two governments.

The delegation of the Vietnamese Hanoi Capital party committee returned home yesterday morning ending its 6-day cordial visit to Laos.

KPL on Thai Meeting With Vietnamese, Cambodians

BK2901121291 Vientiane KPL in English 0923 GMT 29 Jan 91

[Text] Vientiane, Jan 29 (KPL)—A delegation of the Kingdom of Thailand led by its Foreign Minister Athit Urairat yesterday morning paid a courtesy call on Mr. Phoun Sipaseut, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and minister for foreign affairs of the Lao People's Democratic Republic.

The Thai delegation arrived here on Jan. 28 to participate in the funeral of the vice chairman of the Lao Council of Ministers Sali Vongkhamsao, who passed away here on Jan 23.

On the same afternoon, the Thai delegation held separate meetings with a visting delegation of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam led by Dong Sy Nguyen, vice chairman of the Vietnamese Council of Ministers, and a visiting delegation of the State of Cambodia led by Say Chhum, Cambodian vice chairman of the Council of Ministers also coming here for the funeral.

The discussion dealt with the cooperation between the sides, and the search for the political solution to the Cambodia problem by peaceful and just means to meet the aspiration of the Cambodian people as well as of the peace-loving people over the world.

The meeting proceeded in an atmosphere of good understanding and frankness.

World Bank Delegation Arrives in Vientiane

BK2801113191 Vientiane KPL in English 0927 GMT 28 Jan 91

[Text] Vientiane, Jan 28 (KPL)—A high-level delegation of the World Bank led by its Vice President Mr. Attila Karaosmanoglu, yesterday arrived here on a five-day goodwill visit to Laos.

Lao First Deputy-Minister of Economy, Planning and Finance Khamsai Souphanouvong and some senior officals welcomed the delegation at the airport.

The World Bank delegation visiting Laos has the purpose to study the economic restructuring effort as well as the progress achieved in socioeconomic development in Laos. This will be a further step toward expanding the cooperation between Laos and this international financial institution.

The World Bank has over the years provided its assistance as well as its loans to contribute to socioeconomic development in Laos.

Meets With Kaysone Phomvihan

BK2901120791 Vientiane KPL in English 0914 GMT 29 Jan 91

[Text] Vientiane, Jan 29 (KPL)—Kaysone Phomvihan, general secretary of the Lao PRP CC [People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee] and chairman of the Council of Ministers [CM] of the Lao PDR [People's Democratic Republic], received Attilla Kaeraosmanoglu, vice president of the World Bank responsible for Asian region, who is leading a high-level delegation on a five-day visit to Laos.

Receiving the delegation with the CM chairman was Khamsai Souphanouvong, first deputy minister of economy, planning and finance.

Acclaiming the delegation's visit, the first ever made at such a level, Kaysone Phomvihan said this visit had provided a good opportunity for the vice president of the

World Bank to see for himself the situation in Laos, which would be useful for effective coordination in the furture between the Lao PDR and the World Bank.

He praised and thanked for World Bank's assistance to Laos over the years. The assistance was substantial and contributed to the successful socioeconomic development as well as to the improvement of the people's living conditions in Laos, he said, adding that thanks to the correct policy of the government, the country has seen steady socioeconomic development. This policy won both internal and international support.

The CM chairman also confirmed the World Bank delegation that the Lao Government has committed itself to furthering its all-round and comprehensive restructuring in economy as well as in politics. This is designed, he said, to further build and expand the people's democratic regime so that the people of all strata and in all economic sectors can enjoy freedom and self-mastery in all aspects of life.

The CM chairman indicated the main orientations with regard to the future cooperation between Laos and the World Bank, believing that assistance in the years to come from this international financial institution to Laos would be more widened and efficient.

In his turn, the World Bank's vice president thanked the CM chairman for his appreciation of the World Bank's assistance to Laos and said that the World Bank would try to further increase its aid to Laos and to expand this aid to several sectors.

He also welcomed the restructuring policy of the Lao Government and the achievement of Laos and voiced that the Lao Government's determination in its continued comprehensive restructuring would add to the expanded and fruitful cooperation between Laos and the World Bank.

The discussion between the CM chairman and the world bank's delegation proceeded in an atmosphere of mutual understanding.

'Rebel Source': Radio Back on Air 'Next Month'

BK3001034991 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 30 Jan 91 p 3

[Text] A clandestine radio station run by guerrillas fighting the communist regime in Laos which ceased operations last October will be back on the air next month, a rebel source said yesterday.

The 100-watt transmitter, which began broadcasting on July 18 last year, was located in the rugged mountains in northern Laos.

It was set up by a group of former Laotian leaders ousted from the country following the communist victory in 1975.

Many of them formed a group known as the United Lao National Liberation Front (ULNLF).

A number of these former leaders were financed by the CIA during the war.

The radio station was detected by a Soviet satellite and closed down amid fears it would come under air attack as the Laotian government knew its location, the sources said.

The radio broadcast four hours daily in the Lao and ethnic H'mong languages.

The aim is to encourage Laotians to revolt against the communist regime, the source said.

The 100-watt transmitter, worth about $6,000 which was partly contributed to by Laotian exiles, will be installed deep in the mountain range of northern Laos.

The source said that radio operations were halted not only because the transmitter site was detected and the fear of air attack, but because the transmitter also needed repairs.

Philippines

Iraqis Deny Blast Involvement; 'Framed' by CIA

HK2901153191 Hong Kong AFP in English 1055 GMT 25 Jan 91

[Text] Manila, Jan 25 (AFP)—Two Iraqi brothers who have been ordered to leave the Philippines failed to depart Friday after several airlines refused to take them on board, immigration spokesmen said.

Hisham Abdul Sattar, 25, and his brother Hussam, 26, were transferred to a heavily-guarded immigration cell, where they will stay until the government has found a booking for them.

The two, both longtime Manila residents, were ordered deported on Wednesday after they were linked to a failed attempt to bomb a U.S.-run library here last weekend. They have denied any involvement in the blast.

An Iraqi national was killed and another Iraqi was injured when the bomb exploded prematurely. The Iraqi consul to Manila, Muwafak al-'Ani, was deported Thursday after the government accused him of involvement in the bombing.

In denying involvement in Saturday's blast, the Sattars said they had been framed by the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), adding that they hoped to return to the Philippines eventually.

Lebanese 'Believed Kidnapped by the CIA'

HK2901153791 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 28 Jan 91

[By Rey Arquiza]

[Text] Forty-two feared Mossad agents, the U.S. CIA's counterpart, suddenly arrived in the country recently, giving rise to speculation that the Gulf war may be brought to the Philippines.

According to a reliable government source, the arrival of the Mossad agents is related to the Makati bombing incident in which an Iraqi national was killed and another seriously wounded and which resulted in the deportation

of Iraqi Consul General Muwafak al-'Ani, after the government declared him persona non grata. The Mossad operatives are young undercover agents and are believed to be experts in counter-terrorismm, sabotage, and kidnapping enemies wherever they may be.

The Philippines is believed a prime target for terrorists who support Saddam Husayn's plan to export terrorism to countries supporting the U.S-led multinational forces against Iraq and because the biggest U.S. military bases are in the country. The fear of terrorism being exported to the Philippines was increased because there are many Iraqi nationals here and their number one enemies, the Palestinians, are also in the country.

Meanwhile, one of those involved in the Makati bombing incident, a Lebanese national identified as (Rida Shiban), was believed kidnapped by the CIA in Manila and is being subjected to an interrogation in a safehouse. (Sheiban) disappeared from the Travellers Inn, where he lives, a few hours after the Makati bombing incident.

Israeli Ambassador (Yuhap Behiri) announced that the newly arrived Israelis suspected of being Mossad agents are tourists and not undercover agents. However, based on the Immigration Department's records at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport, the Israelis are genuine Mossad operatives.

'Terrorists' Using E. German, Mauritian Passports

HK3001021791 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 29 Jan 91

[By Rey Arquiza]

[Text] Immigration Commissioner Andrea Domingo said that terrorists are using East German passports and Mauritian documents to deceive authorities when entering the Philippines. East German passports have become collectors' items following the reunification of West and East Germany, while authorities in Mauritius announced that about 50 passports had been lost and may be in the hands of terrorists.

Commissioner Domingo said the CID [Commission for Immigration and Deportation] received an advisory from the international intelligence community advising them to take precautions in relation to Iraqi nationals attempting to enter Manila to sow terror in support of Saddam Husayn's goal to export terrorism to other countries. Domingo stated that almost every day, Iraqis and Palestinians claiming to be tourists are being segregated by immigration officers at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport. Domingo added it is difficult to believe that some Iraqi nationals, who had previously stayed in the country as students but had left long ago, were coming back as tourists. They are immediately sent back and not allowed to enter the Philippines. Immigration officers at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport and its subsidiary points in the provinces were provided with the latest profiles of foreigners believed to be terrorists to prevent them entering the Philippines.

Editorial Views U.S. 'Democracy Initiative' Aid

HK2901060391 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 29 Jan 91 p 4

[Editorial: "The Limits of Aid for Democracy"]

[Text] The new director of the U.S. Agency for International Development (AID), Ronald Roskens, has announced a policy that U.S. aid to the Third World will be given to promote democracy.

Calling the policy a "democracy initiative," Mr Roskens said AID proposed "focussing AID experience, skills and resouces explicitly to help promote and consolidate democracy as the legitimate organizing principle for political systems throughout the world."

He added that AID would try to strengthen effective electorates, informed legislatures and independent judges, the key institutional foundations of Western democracies. What the policy means is that the principal norm in extending AID assistance is a country's progress towards democracy.

This policy shift reflects the broader thinking in the Bush administration and the U.S. Congress, which has sought to encourage democratic revival in the Third World and even in the former Communist bloc in Eastern Europe.

In the past, especially during the Reagan presidency, U.S. aid was given to undemocratic governments so long as they promoted American security interests. That policy underpinned the long-standing support for the Marcos regime by the Reagan administration, which believed, up to the time of the People Power rising, that the former dictator provided political stability to American military bases in the Philippines.

The Philippines, as well as many of the countries of Latin America which dumped their military juntas in the 1980s and replaced them with defective democracies, returned to democracy despite the U.S. support of their authoritarian regimes. Their switch to democracy was determined by the internal dynamics of their political systems rather than by U.S. influence on the events of political change.

The policy shift that led to AID's "democracy initiative" is merely adapting to the trend of democratic renewal in the Third World and in Eastern Europe.

However, the establishment of democracies in the Third World and the consolidation of new democracies require more than AID's "democracy initiative." Many of the revived democracies, including the Philippines, have heavy foreign debts which drive their economies to their knees. Their economic distress puts their democratic systems at risk.

Unless the debtor countries obtain some form of debt relief, a "democracy initiative" will have a very limited impact on the consolidation of new democracies.

There is another obstacle to the consolidation of the democratic process. With the emergence of more new democracies, the competition for access to aid resources from the rich industrial countries has even become more

intense. Germany, a large donor country, is shifting much of its aid to the rebuilding of the economy of East Germany, and to the Eastern European countries. Thus, as more democracies emerge, more resources are required to help the consolidation of their democratic processes by strengthening their economies, while sources of aid remain at least constant.

If these factors are considered, one sees the contradictions arising from AID's "democracy initiative."

$5.3 Billion Debt Cut Sought in New Bases Pact

HK3001031491 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 30 Jan 91 pp 1, 5

[By reporter Jose G. Ebro]

[Text] The Philippines will seek the inclusion of a debt-reduction package aimed at placing in defessance some $5.3 billion of commercial debt in a new bases compensation package, House foreign affairs committee chairman Jose de Venecia disclosed yesterday.

The solon [legislator] said he had extensive discussions with Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus in this regard. The United States is awaiting the outlines of a compensation package which the Philippines will demand under a Philippine-American Cooperation Treaty.

"We want a special bases-related debt-reduction initiative in the new treaty," Mr. de Venecia said, noting that the phrase "bases- related" would "preclude Brazil, Mexico and Argentina asking for the same treatment."

Essentially a spin-off of the debt-reduction mechanism under the 1988 Military Bases Review, the Philippines wants the U.S. to issue zero-coupon Treasury bonds for the backstopping of Philippine exist bonds with which to buy back some $5.3 billion of debt paper. "That's our target. That $5.3 billion owed to commercial creditor banks is the most onerous component of our whole $28-billion foreign debt," he said.

Additionally, the solon revealed that the Philippines will be seeking trade access arrangements with the U.S. "along the patterns of their Caribbean Basin Initiative."

"Ideally, the Philippines should increase its trade with the U.S. by at least 30 percent to 50 percent per year," Mr. de Venecia said.

The compelling argument for these components of a compensation package, Mr. de Venecia said, is that these "will reduce pressure on the U.S. Congress to appropriate hard cash for the Philippines. These are what we would call 'off-budget' of 'off-balancee sheet' provisions."

"We need a bases agreement, an IMF (International Monetary Fund) agreement and the Philippine Aid Plan [PAP] pledging in place by the first quarter of this year or we will be in deep trouble," the solon said.

"This is realpolitik. You won't get the PAP without the IMF okay and you won't get the IMF without the bases agreement," Mr. de Venecia asserted. "You're dealing with the same people. These are three different things but they're all linked."

Olongapo Mayor Underscores Need for U.S. Bases

HK3001031091 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 30 Jan 91 p 9

[Text] Angeles City—"The war in the Gulf has underscored the necessity of keeping the U.S. military bases in the country as a safeguard against external threats and to provide stability in the Southeast Asian region," Olongapo Mayor Richard Gordon said yesterday.

In a speech before officers and members of the Philippine Institute of Certified Public Accountants here, Gordon said, "Filipinos should reflect on the fate that befell the tiny but rich Kuwait emirate in terms of maintaining an alliance with a strong nation like the United States, especially for a country with an ill-equipped defense force like the Philippines."

"The U.S. bases," said Gordon, "constitute one of the biggest distractions in the country. Instead of talking about the phaseout of the facilities, we should maximize the benefits the country is deriving from their presence," said the mayor.

"Aside from providing security, we should consider the compensation aspect and the almost $500 million being pumped by the bases into the local economy," he said.

According to Gordon, the nation is burdened enough by a huge foreign debt, large budget deficits, and other economic problems and is not prepared to absorb the adverse effects of economic dislocation in case of an immediate bases pullout.

He added that at present, the Armed Forces is incapable of filling up the security vacuum that will certainly arise, given the lack of budgetary support to fully develop the country's own defense capabilities.

"The Philippine government should adopt a more flexible and realistic posture on the bases," the mayor said, adding that the current bases conversion program drawn up by the Abueva council "is bound to fall because of lack of support from the local population and scarcity of funds to finance such a program."

Aquino Orders 10 Percent Cut in Expenditures

HK2501122391 Quezon City ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corporation DZMM in Tagalog 1100 GMT 25 Jan 91

[Text] President Corazon Aquino today ordered a 10-percent reduction of all government expenditures in line with the implementation of austerity measures. This is in accordance with the Lower House's proposal to substantially reduce the 1991 national budget. She also welcomed the proposal of Senator Neptali Gonzales to restore the oil price stabilization fund in the 1991 budget in order to keep gasoline prices stable. The president asked Congress to determine other expenditures that could be reduced.

Chief of Staff Vows To Dismantle Rebel Elements

HK2301125791 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 23 Jan 91

[Text] Lieutenant General Rodolfo Biazon, Armed Forces chief of staff, assured that the military will dismantle the elements of the Reform the Armed Forces Movement-Soldiers of the Filipino People and Young Officers Union serving as the rebel soldiers' propaganda machine five months from today. Biazon issued the assurance during his visit to the Philippine Army, Air Force, and Navy Headquarters—his first action since he officially assumed his position.

According to Biazon, the military is determined to suppress the group as part of the Armed Forces of the Philippines' internal reforms. Meanwhile, the military has begun its intensive operation against the rebel soldiers, particularly those involved in the series of failed coups d'etat. In this connection, Biazon also stated that insurgency will possibly be wiped out in the next three or five years. He added that through counterinsurgency operations and the Lambat-Bitag [military offensive in rebel-infested areas], the country will be rid of communists and guerrillas.

1 May Movement Notes Rising Retrenchments

HK2101035591 Quezon City MALAYA in English 21 Jan 91 p 2

[Text] Amid efforts to maintain industrial peace furing the Gulf conflict, retrenchments of hundreds of workers have started, the Kilusang Mayo Uno [KMU—1 May Movement] said yesterday.

Dominador Mamangon, KMU national council member, said several industries started laying off workers since late last year and more are expected to be retrenched even before the Tripartite Industrial Peace Council could think of means to cushion the impact of the present economic crisis.

He said those expected to be hardest hit by the waves of retrenchment will be workers from the garments/textile and semi- conductor industries which demand cheap labor.

He reported that at least 300 workers were retrenched at the Novelty Garments, a company based at the Food Terminal complex, while some 500 were dismissed from the Philips Components and Philips Bulbs, both in Las Pinas, Metro Manila.

In the first week of January, Mamangon said, 20 workers of the Integral Chemical Co. in Mandaluyong were given their walking papers.

Some 150 workers of Nissan Philippines in Quezon City may lose their jobs, he added.

Ernesto Arellano, KMU deputy secretary general, said despite the decision of the Labor Advisory Consultative Council for workers to practise restraint on strikes, KMU-affiliated unions will wage strikes on a "case-to-case basis if the situation warrants."

The KMU vowed to spearhead protest actions against the Gulf war, saying the Aquino administration is using the Middle East war as a "scapegoat" in the present economic crisis.

Foreign Aid Cut Forces Rebels To Surrender

HK2601084391 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 26 Jan 91

[Italicized passage in English]

[Text] Support for the Moro National Liberation Front [MNLF] had been stopped due to the Middle East war, and because of this its members are slowly returning to the government. Yesterday, 500 of MNLF Chairman Nur Misuari's men surrendered to Senator Aquilino Nene Pimentel in Munay, Lanao del Norte, the so-called place of no return. They also surrendered arms like AK-47s, armalite rifles, M-14s, Consul submachineguns, Browning automatic rifles, carbines, and revolvers. The returnees were led by MNLF Commanders Jill Sangaupan, Junayd Pandapatan, Lapit Pomobural, and Hadji Amin. MNLF Commander Junayd Pandapatan said they surrendered to the government because their support from the Middle East had been cut. Here is part of Junayd's statement in an interview with Deo Maclama:

[Begin recording] [Junayd] It is really difficult to remain a rebel today because we don't have supporters. The foreign support had stopped. I don't know why this had stopped.

[Reporter] When did Nur Misuari stop sending support to you?

[Junayd] Long ago. The only people supporting us are the masses, the civilians. Now, there is also a crisis in the Philippines; *that's why we are planning to return to the fold of the law.* [end recording]

Meanwhle, the MNLF commander added that they will get involved in the government's livelihood programs while his men will join the Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Unit.

Senator Aquilino Pimentel, for his part, said he expects the surrender of more Muslim rebels because the government is giving them money in return for the weapons they surrender and they are also given many benefits. [Pimentel recording indistinct]

24 Killed in Separate Insurgency Clashes

HK2901144791 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog 1300 GMT 29 Jan 91

[Text] Twenty-four people were killed in clashes which occurred in various parts of the country.

Last Sunday, eight of 70 New People's Army [NPA] rebels were killed when they attacked a police outpost in Makunakon, Isabela. Three Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Unit [CAFGU] members were killed, while four others, including an Army lieutenant, were seriously

wounded. The rebels carted away an M-16 machine gun, four automatic rifles, and a radio transceiver.

Meanwhile, three NPAs were killed by soldiers in Labo, Camarines Norte. Two CAFGUs were slain in an ambush in Bohol; two were killed in Negros, and two were also killed Mindoro.

Rebels killed a former soldier in Bukidnon, Mindanao, and three members of a family were also killed in Davao del Norte province.

Rebels Kill 2 Intelligence Agents in Makati

HK2901125591 Quezon City ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corporation DZMM in Tagalog 1100 GMT 29 Jan 91

[Text] Two members of the counterintelligence command have been killed by rebels belonging to the Reform the Armed Forces Movement [RAM]. Armed Forces chief Lt. Gen. Rodolfo Biazon, said the bodies of the two officers were found in Pembo, Makati, last Saturday morning. The victims were identified as Sgts Quintin Inego and Licardo Lagdaan. The suspect has been identified as former Master Sgt Viana, formerly a security aide to Senator Juan Ponce Enrile at the Ministry of National Defense in 1986. Master Sgt Viana was dismissed from the service for his participation in the 1988 mutiny. The slain officers were monitoring RAM soldiers involved in bank robberies.

Meanwhile, investigation of an army corporal continues to determine his possible link with rebel soldiers following his arrest yesterday while carrying explosives. The suspect, Cpl Aristeo Padrigal, is assigned to the 2d Infantry Division in Camp Capinpin, Tanay, Rizal. He will be moved today to the Armed Forces of the Philippines Provost Marshal, Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City. He was arrested by elements from the Southern Police District. Seized from Padrigal were 15 TNT explosives and three C-4 explosives. It will be recalled that the Muntinlupa police sub-station 2 is near the area where former Colonel Billy Bibit, a RAM member, was arrested. [sentence as heard] Padrigal is to be charged with possession of explosives.

8 Communist Rebels Killed in Isabela Encounter

HK2901122191 Quezon City ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corporation DZMM in Tagalog 1100 GMT 29 Jan 91

[Excerpt] Eight communist rebels were killed after an encounter with government troops in Centro Makunakon, Isabela. According to the latest report received by Major General Lisandro C. Abadia, personnel from the 6th Civilian Active Auxiliary Command of the 21st Infantry Battalion led by 2d Lt Bacorro, encountered an undetermined number of communist rebels in Centro Makunakon. Abadia said the government troops were victorious in the encounter, while the defeated rebels retreated. [passage omitted]

Officer Killed; 'Communist Cadre' Captured

OW2501085591 Tokyo KYODO in English 0811 GMT 25 Jan 91

[Text] Manila, Jan. 25 KYODO—Communist guerrillas killed the commanding officer of an army infantry battalion in an attack in the northern Philippines, the military reported Friday.

A flash report sent to Armed Forces Headquarters identified the slain officer as Lt. Col. Carmelino Dimabuyo, chief of the 65th Infantry Battalion deployed in Rizal Town, Cagayan Province, 340 kilometers northwest of Manila.

The military said an unknown number of Communist New People's Army (NPA) rebels attacked the battalion's Alpha Company detachment at 8:00 P.M. Thursday, in the village of Mowanan. The report gave no other details.

Meanwhile, the military reported the capture of a communist cadre who allegedly received military training in China, in a clash with government troopers last Monday. The military said Alberto Torres, alleged team leader of a guerrilla unit in Tarlac Province, stayed in China for 11 years and came back to the country in 1986. Two of Torres' companions were killed, three others were captured, while two others escaped following the 30-minute clash.

Communist Rebels Kill Suspected Informants

HK2401035591 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 24 Jan 91 p 8

[Text] Two alleged members of the New People's Army (NPA) suspected of being deep penetration agents were slain while another was wounded by three of their comrades sent to execute them yesterday morning.

Maj. Jesus Lipana, Central Police District station 5 commander, identified the fatalities as Mauricio Regalado, alias "Ka [Comrade] Mulong," 38, of 183 Basilio St., Sampaloc, Manila, and Zaldy Hagay, alias "Ka Eddie," 40, of barangay Commonwealth, QC [Quezon City].

Wounded was Regalado's wife, Marita, 35. She suffered a bullet wound in the left arm.

Investigation disclosed that Regalado and Hagay were shot at pointblank by three suspected NPA members while the victims were walking along a remote road in barangay Payatas at about 3:30 a.m. yesterday.

Lipana disclosed that the suspects armed with .45 caliber pistols were in a passenger jeepney which intercepted the three victims.

Marita told police probers that the three armed men confronted her husband about reports that he was a military informant, then shot Regalado and Hagay in the head.

Marita said she tried to prevent the shooting by hitting the gunmen with a piece of wood but she was also shot by one of them.

Marita admitted that her husband was a former NPA member assigned to collect money and food for the communist movement.

18 Killed in Insurgency-Related Incidents

HK2301125191 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 23 Jan 91

[Text] Three New People's Army [NPA] rebels killed a high-ranking Philippine National Police [PNP] investigator, identified as Sergeant Angelito Cruz, 44, married, and a certain Armando Roque in Balanga, Bataan.

In Orion of the same province, three NPA rebels confiscating arms and documents were killed. PNP provincial superintendent Colonel Enrique Galang identified the victims as Recto Caragay, alias Comrade Jose; Fernando Mariano, alias Comrade Rey, and Carlos Campana, alias Comrade Marlon.

An encounter between the military and the rebels also took place in Tarlac.

Meanwhile, in Northern Luzon, Cordillera region, 13 militiamen died in another encounter.

NPA rebels also brought terror in Southern Tagalog as they attacked an army detachment in Calawag, Quezon and blew up a concrete bridge connecting Bondoc Peninsula. It will be recalled that Southern Luzon Command Army Captain Lito Moredo was abducted by rebels in San Pablo City, Laguna. According to information gathered by the rebel surveillance movement in Southern Tagalog, the NPA will attack provinces in Mindóro, Quezon, Laguna, and upland Batangas, and will be active in Tarlac, Nueva Ecija, Aurora, Pampanga, and Bulacan.

The site of summer offensives, bombings, and assassinations by rebel sparrow hitmen will be Rizal, Metro Manila.

Police Arrest NPA's 'Dirty-Tricks' Chief

HK2501045391 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 25 Jan 91 p 7

[By Dave M. Veridiano]

[Text] Police intelligence agents arrested Tuesday night the chief of the communist movement's "dirty-tricks department" responsible for the kidnapping of Japanese businessman Nobuyuki Wakaoji four years ago.

Philippine National Police [PNP] Director General Cesar P. Nazareno identified the suspect as Veronico B. Bagamasbad, 30, alias Cris Sanches and Emiliano Lopez, and a native of Iriga City in Bicol region.

A police intelligence report tagged Bagamasbad as the chief of the New People's Army's [NPA] Special Operation Section (SOS).

The same report named him as the operations chief of the Edgardo Jopson Brigade directly under the NPA general command.

Nazareno said Bagamasbad was with four companions aboard a Lancer which was cruising near the corner of Roxas Blvd. and Buendia Ave., when agents from the PNP security group apprehended them. The agents seized a .45-caliber pistol from Bagamasbad.

The identities of his companions were withheld pending their interrogation.

Bagamasbad's arrest brought to four the number of suspected NPA hitmen captured in connection with the celebrated Wakaoji kidnapping case in 1986. Authorities said the NPA and the Japanese Red Army had jointly pulled off the kidnapping.

Wakaoji, a Manila-based executive of the Mitsui and Co. Ltd., a giant trading congolmerate, was kidnapped after playing golf in Canlubang, Laguna and was held captive for 138 days. Reports said he was freed after his company paid the abductors some $3 million.

After his release, he returned to Japan, where he remained until his death of a liver failure in a Tokyo hospital in Feb. 9, 1990.

Senior Superintendent Wilfredo Cruz, PNP security group director, said Bagamasbad confessed to his participation in the Wakaoji kidnapping after he was identified by his former hitmen, who were earlier arrested by the PNP agents.

Investigators filed charges against Bagamasbad for illegal possession of firearms in furtherance of rebellion.

Cruz said documents captured from Bagamasbad indicate that he had adopted a deep cover as a legitimate businessman.

Thailand

6 Iraqi Diplomats Depart; Reasons 'Unclear'

BK3001011191 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 30 Jan 91 p 1

[Text] Six Iraqi diplomats and five of their dependents have left Bangkok since January 23, reliable police sources said yesterday.

The reasons leading to their departure, which came in the wake of the terrorism alert in Bangkok and major provinces, were unclear.

The five Iraqi diplomats includes a third secretary, Salim M. Nahi al-Jiburi, the sources said.

It was reported that at least two Iraqi diplomats had been asked to voluntarily leave Thailand last week but the Iraqi Embassy denied that there had been such a request from the Thai Foreign Ministry.

The Government stepped up security measures for foreign embassies whose countries are involved in the Gulf conflict after the war erupted and has arrested at least five Arabs—three Iraqis and two Jordanians—for interrogation as security suspects.

Two of the Iraqis were put on a flight to Malaysia on Monday but they were flown back to Bangkok on the same day after being barred from entering Malaysia.

They are expected to leave for Jordan via Vienna tomorrow.

Activist lawyer Thongbai Thongpao, who is providing legal counsel for the two Iraqis, Muhammad 'Ali and Mahmud Muhammad, said yesterday that arrangements were made to obtain tickets from Thai Airways International to fly them to Vienna. He said they would fly from there to Jordan.

"If there is no problem with the tickets, they will be able to leave on Thursday," he said.

Mr Thongbai said the Jordanian, Radi Shammari, who was refused entry by Malaysian authorities, was likely to stay in Thailand for a longer period because he could not afford the plane ticket.

The three were held at the Immigration Police Division head office together with a second Jordanian who has overstayed his visa.

It was reported that another Iraqi had been held in "preventive custody" at the Immigration Police Division.

The Iraqi, aged 44, reportedly holds an Iraqi passport and a British passport bearing the name William James.

An informed source said the Iraqi, who was picked up by police over a week ago, had been repeatedly questioned by American officials.

Officials 'Very Disturbed' by U.S. Travel Warning

BK3001012191 Bangkok THE NATION in English 30 Jan 91 p A1

[Text] Thai officials said yesterday that they were very disturbed by a second warning from the U.S. State Department on the terrorist threat in Thailand which also advised against trekking in some parts of the North because of "bandits and armed drug traffickers."

The travel advisory, released yesterday by the U.S. agency's Bureau of Consular Affairs extended "indefinitely" a warning first put on Jan 20 of a possible terrorist threat to U.S., British, Australian and Israeli interests in Bangkok because of the Gulf War.

But the new warning goes on to say that "additionally, Department of State advises U.S. citizens travelling to northern Thailand that trekking in certain remote areas along the Thai-Burmese border... can be hazardous and should be avoided."

It said that "bandits and armed drug traffickers" were "known to pose a threat" to travellers in areas of Chiang Mai, Chiang Rai and Mae Hong Son provinces, and advised Americans to contact the U.S. Consulate in Chiang Mai for further information.

Thai officials reacted angrily to the advisory.

"We consider the warning very irritating particularly when it links the terrorist threat to criminal elements," said a high ranking official who asked not to be named.

The number of foreign visitors to Thailand has dropped sharply since hostilities erupted between Iraq and U.S.-led forces in the Persian Gulf.

"The warning is likely to have very undersirable effects on Thailand's image," he added.

Another official who said he had spent years studying in the United States said that the degree of safety in most parts of Thailand was better than in the U.S. given the high crime rate in that country.

Praman: Reports of Possible Terrorism 'Inaccurate'

BK3001080591 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0530 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] Before leaving for Khon Kaen Province to inspect the performance of government officials, Interior Minister Police General Praman Adireksan at the Bangkok International Airport this morning answered reporters' questions on the investigation of three foreigners suspected of staging terrorist acts in Thailand.

Praman said the news about possible terrorism in Thailand are inaccurate because Thailand is far away from the Middle East, where the war is taking place. He said the country is not involved in the war and has always given equal respect and treatment to all sides.

The interior minister urged the mass media to stop presenting such news as this would affect the country adversely, especially its economy and tourism. The mass media were asked to consider the positive and negative effects, and particularly the possible damage it would have on the country.

The minister went on to say that publicizing such news destroys the image of the Thai Government, and that this is done by the government's ill-wishers. More important, it is also harmful to the country, he concluded.

Police Warn Innkeepers of 'Terrorist Suspects'

BK3001013191 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 30 Jan 91 p 3

[Text] Chiang Mai—Police yesterday told guesthouse operators to watch out for Iraqi terrorist suspects under their roofs.

Muang District Chief Inspector Somphong Khongpetsa said suspected Iraqi terrorists had arrived in this tourist city carrying United Arab Emirates passports.

Police believe the Iraqis, who may disguise themselves as businessmen from the Middle East, are staying at some of the more than 100 guesthouses in Chiang Mai.

The guesthouse operators have been advised to call police immediately they see Arab-looking people at their establishments. But they were also advised not to panic and told to treat them as they would any other guests.

Terrorist suspects would not stay in big hotels where security measures have been stepped up but would stay in guesthouses scattered around the city, the chief inspector said.

Pol Lt-Col [Police Lieutenant-Colonel] Somphong said terrorist suspects might come in twos—one might be experienced in sabotage activities and the other might be some sort of "terrorist trainee."

They may even pose as a boyfriend and girlfriend or husband and wife staying together at guesthouses and acting just like tourists, he said.

Crime Suppression Division [CSD] police were introduced to the guesthouse operators at a briefing on terrorist threats yesterday. The CSD police would wear civilian clothes while searching for terrorist suspects, the chief inspector said.

Pol Lt-Col Somphong declined to say exactly how many Iraqi terrorist suspects were reported to be in town.

Meanwhile, a company of Border Patrol Police and bomb disposal experts in Mae Rim district have been put on stand-by in the event of a terrorist attack.

Police and soldiers have been deployed at the United States consulate and residences of diplomats and other foreign officials since terrorist threats were made in connection with the Gulf war.

Cabinet Approves New U.S. Ambassador to Thailand

BK3001023191 Bangkok THE NATION in English 30 Jan 91 p A1

[Text] The Cabinet yesterday approved the nomination of David Floyd Lambertson, an expert on Southeast Asian affairs, as the new U.S. ambassador to Thailand, government sources said yesterday.

Lambertson, who is currently deputy assistant secretary of state for Southeast Asian and Pacific affairs, will replace Ambassador Daniel O'Donohue who has been here for two and a half years.

Lambertson, 51, is a career diplomat who has served in many Asian countries, including the former South Vietnam, Indonesia, Japan, Australia and South Korea.

The sources said the Thai government sees Lambertson, who has been dealing extensively with the Cambodian issue, as an envoy who would contribute greatly to Thai-U.S. relations.

The sources said the U.S. administration asked the Thai government to consider Lambertson's nomination as an "urgent matter." They did not elaborate.

After the Thai government's approval, Lambertson's appointment will be confirmed through the U.S. congressional process.

Lambertson is known to be a staunch supporter of the non-communist resistance forces in Cambodia.

Premier on New U.S. Envoy, Aid to Gulf Workers

BK3001101591 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0530 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] Because a number of Thai workers have expressed their intention to return home, the Thai Government will send planes to transport them in case of emergency. On the general situation inside the country, the prime minister said there is nothing to worry about.

Prime Minister General Chatchai Chunhawan answered reporters' questions before participating in a meeting of the ministers and permanent secretary generals of ministries at Government House this morning.

[Begin recording, in progress] [Chatchai] No, nothing to worry about.

[Reporter] Have you been informed of the change of U.S. ambassadors to Thailand?

[Chatchai] Yes, I have. He is coming in June.

[Reporter] Is it a transfer before the end of his term in office?

[Chatchai] No, it is just a regular change. The present ambassador has been here for three years already. Normally, an ambassador will stay in one place for no more than three or four years. If he were to stay too long, he might become a local citizen. [laughter]

[Reporter] Mr. Prime Minister, the Thai workers in Saudi Arabia have made a request through the Thai mass media for the Thai Government to send planes to bring them home. What will you do about this?

[Chatchai] Not many people want to return home. They can return through Egypt now.

[Reporter] Have we prepared to send planes for them?

[Chatchai] Yes, the planes can land at Cairo without any problem.

[Reporter] They say the workers are having trouble making the trip....

[Chatchai, interrupting] This is normal.

[Reporter] ...because, nowadays, everyone has to fly from Riyadh, and the air fares have gone up, and what's more, no one is allowed to make ticket reservations.

[Chatchai] This is normal, because everyone is trying to buy a seat. Don't forget that one must expect some difficulty. It is impossible to expect things to be as convenient as in our country. It would be the same here if we were in a war time.

[Reporter] Sir, in case of a real emergency....

[Chatchai, interrupting] Yes, we will send planes to bring them home. [end recording]

DPRK Premier Arrives for Official Visit

BK2901142691 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1230 GMT 29 Jan 91

[Text] Prime Minister General Chatchai Chunhawan today welcomed DPRK Premier Yon Hyong-muk at the Air Force Command Airport. The DPRK premier, accompanied by a delegation, arrived for an official visit to Thailand as guest of the Thai Government from 29 January to 1 February.

Also present at the airport to welcome the DPRK premier was a group of high ranking military officers led by Deputy Supreme Commander General Phichit Kunlawanit, Army Commander General Suchinda Khraprayun, Navy Commander Admiral Praphat Kritsanachan, and Air Force Commander Air Chief Marshal Kaset Rotchananin.

The DPRK premier, accompanied by the Thai prime minister, reviewed the guards of honor from the Army, Navy, and Air Force.

During the visit, Premier Yon Hyong-muk is scheduled to hold talks with the Thai prime minister on 30 January.

Visit To Boost Relations

BK3001030191 Bangkok THE NATION in English 30 Jan 91 p A2

[Text] North Korean Premier Yon Hyong-muk arrived here yesterday on a three-day official visit to Thailand to boost relations between the two countries.

Yon, accompanied by a 30-member entourage which included his deputy Kim Pok-sin and International Economics Minister Chong Song-nam, was received at the military airport by Premier Chatchai Chunhawan. This is the second official visit of a North Korean premier since the two established quasi-diplomatic ties in 1975.

Also at the airport to welcome the North Korean premier were Deputy Premier Chaloemphan Siwikon and Army Commander Gen Suchinda Khraprayun.

The two leaders are expected to sign a memorandum of understanding on the opening of embassies in each other's capitals during their meeting at Government House today.

Pyongyang opened a North Korean trade office in Bangkok in 1979 and persistently urged Bangkok to agree to establishing full diplomatic relations. But for security reasons, Thailand had declined, claiming that it was not ready. The Thai ambassador to Beijing is normally also accredited to Pyongyang; the North Korean ambassador to Kuala Lumpur doubles as ambassador to Bangkok.

Informed sources said the new Chatchai administration is considering setting up a Thai trade office in Pyongyang in the light of the increasing trade between the two countries. But informed Thai officials said it would take quite a while before Thailand actually opens a diplomatic mission in Pyongyang.

The sources said Chatchai and Yon would discuss ways and means of increasing trade and industrial cooperation between the two countries.

The two-way trade between the two during 1985-89 averaged Bt [baht] 618 million a year, with the balance mostly in favour of North Korea. Thai exports to North Korea comprised mostly of agricultural products, such as rice, coffee beans, tapioca flour and raw sugar; North Korean exports to Thailand included steel products and silk.

The sources said said it was likely that the two leaders would call for the first meeting of the moribund Thai-North Korean trade commission as soon as possible and to exchange trade missions. The commission has not met since its establishment in August 1987.

The North Korean premier is expected to brief Premier Chatchai on the latest developments in the Korean unification talks and Pyongyang's normalization talks with Tokyo.

He will tour the Thai Central Steel Company's plant before holding talks with Chatchai in the afternoon. He will be granted an audience with His Majesty the King tomorrow and leave for Jakarta on Friday.

International Economics Minister Chong Song-nam and International Trade Deputy Minister Kang Chong-mo will hold separate talks with their Thai counterparts tomorrow.

Responding to questions at Government House, Premier Chatchai reiterated that developing closer ties with North Korea would not create any problem because this was a constructive move in Thai-North Korean bilateral affairs.

Exporters Prepare for Fewer Thai-U.S. Flights

BK2801024591 Bangkok THE NATION in English 28 Jan 91 p B1

[Text] Most of the exporters will readjust their air-freight schedules, anticipating reduction in flights between Thailand and the United States within the next six weeks.

The temporary Thailand-U.S. agreement expires by then, adding to the woes of air carriers here who face freight backlogs.

Following the breakdown of aviation negotiations between Thailand and the United States last November, as many as 35 passenger flights of 300 tonnes capacity each and four 747F weekly flights with a capacity of 400 tonnes stand to be reduced.

Exporters said they would be transferring U.S.-bound cargo on to flights starting from other countries such as Japan, Hong Kong, South Korea and Taiwan.

Japan will be the choice of the exporters to shift their cargo freight after six weeks. Using local carriers from Thailand, these exporters will transfer the cargo to U.S.-bound flights from Japan.

Seagate Technology (Thailand) Co, exporting floppy disk drives with promotional privileges from the Board of Investment, plans to make Japan the gateway for its 300-tonne monthly cargo to the United States.

A company source said the flight reduction on U.S. airlines called for by the Transport and Communications Ministry will not affect the company since it has already approached non-U.S. airliners to fly its cargo between Bangkok and Tokyo.

He added that the capacity of the existing airline companies may not be enough to cope with the loss of about 10 Thai-U.S. weekly flights but believed that new flights will be added by Thai Airways International and other regional airlines.

The Transport and Communications Ministry has ordered U.S. airliners to reduce the number of weekly flights to Bangkok by about 10 to 28.

IBM Co, a leading computer firm, said it will not be affected by the flight disruption between the United States and Thailand. Most of its parts made in Thailand are destined for Japan and not to the United States or Europe, its spokesman said.

Its marginal exports to the Continent and the United States will be catered by airline firms such as Japan Airline whose trans- Pacific flights will emanate from Bangkok.

Although the United States is the major market for AT&T's exports, the giant telephone company is not worried by the possible suspension of Thai-U.S. air traffic. The only adjustment to ensure smooth passage for its U.S.-bound cargo will be the rescheduling of its consignments from Bangkok, a company source said.

Likewise, Khiri Chaichanawong, vice president of Thai Air Freight Association and managing director of Trans-Air Cargo Co, said that Thailand exported only 20 per cent of its products to the United States and the cancellation of air traffic would hurt trade between the two countries.

Khiri said exports to the United States are likely to come down in any case. He gave the example of garments, which decreased by 30 per cent in 1990 because of economic recession there.

He said that the association has already proposed to airlines to increase their flight frequency and aircraft size to make up for the space shortage. The issue is under consideration, he said.

Diesel Oil Smuggled to South From Malaysia

BK2901130391 Bangkok NAEO NA in Thai 29 Jan 91 p 2

[Excerpts] Our correspondent reported from Songkhla Province on 28 January that a group of diesel oil merchants had smuggled diesel oil from Malaysia to Narathiwat, Pattani, and Satun Provinces.

The correspondent said that according to a source in the Songkhla provincial customs office, the merchants smuggled the diesel oil by pipes laid from the Kota Baru town in Malaysia to Takbai district in Narathiwat Province through the Koluk River. After that, they stored the diesel oil at oil stations for delivery to their customers in the southern provinces, such as Pattani, Yala, Songkhla, Phatthalung, and Nakhon Si Thammarat.

Besides smuggling diesel oil through pipes, these smugglers also used small boats to smuggle oil through the Koluk River onto the Thai side. Some officials are believed to have colluded with these smuggling activities.

The reason for the smuggling of diesel oil to the south is because the price of diesel oil in the Malaysian side is 6.70 baht per liter while the diesel oil could be sold at a price of about 7.40 baht per liter at the Thai border provinces, or may even be as high as 8.80 baht per liter in some provinces such as Songkhla, Phatthalung, and Nakhon Si Thammarat Provinces. [passage omitted]

More than one million liters of oil is being smuggled from Malaysia into Thailand every day, causing the government to lose tens of millions of baht monthly.

70 Hmong Repatriated From Chiang Rai to Laos

BK2901040391 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 29 Jan 91 p 2

[Text] About 70 Hmong hilltribes people who had been living illegally in a refugee camp in Chiang Kham District of Chiang Rai, have been sent back to Laos, according to a well-informed refugee source.

The source said the group, which included several women and children, were ordered out of the camp by defence volunteers and police.

The source said the forced repatriation of the group caused concern among some 600 Hmong tribesmen at the camp, many of them dependents of former members of Gen Vang Pao's resistance fighters.

The illegal settlers were earlier told by Thai authorities that they would be repatriated.

Vietnam

Documents' Impact on National Defense Viewed

BK2901092591 Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 12 Jan 91 pp 1, 4

[Column by Colonel Le Hoe: "Views Contributed on the Seventh Party Congress Draft Documents"]

[Text] It is not the length of the draft documents that counts but the way in which they will be implemented that matters. Nonetheless, after studying the draft documents, we think that as far as the platform and the strategy are concerned, we should make an extra effort to address the issue of national defense.

We would like to analyze a number of points to help shed more light on the dialectical and practical characteristics of this petition as follows:

First of all, as far as the present situation is concerned, it is obvious that peace, national independence, cooperation, and development constitute mankind's most important trends. More and more people worldwide have opted for the policy of making more friends and fewer enemies, broadening international relations, and overcoming sociopolitical differences or contradictions to establish economic ties and give first priority to economic development, and henceforth, create conditions for consolidating national defense. Nonetheless, a dramatic fact still exists, namely, although their nature remains unchanged, the imperialist forces have made very important adjustments to adapt themselves to the times. Relying on their economic and technological strengths, the imperialist forces

have resorted to infiltration, instigation, fabrication, demagogy, and "peaceful evolution" to contain and eliminate socialism.

As far as the relations among the superpowers are concerned, confrontation has been replaced by dialogue. Nonetheless, in many parts of the world, regional conflicts have continued to develop complicatedly and on many occasions, have increased in intensity. The U.S. imperialists still attach great importance to their deterrent policy based on the use of force, including nuclear weapons. Therefore, it could be premature, if not to say illusory, if one thinks that as far as today's world is concerned, cooperation has prevailed over conflict, confrontation has been replaced by dialogue, and peace has dissipated the clouds of war. The present era has opened the possibility of resolving contradictions through the most intelligent and most rational means in order to avoid a manpower-and material resources-consuming war. Nevertheless, realities have indicated that failure to maintain a multifaceted struggle between revolutionary and counterrevolutionary forces and between peace-keeping forces and belligerent imperialist forces; and the refusal to devote the minimum efforts to maintaining a national defense potential at a rational and necessary level will all lead to unpredictable, disastrous consequences.

Second, in terms of orientations, nature, and objectives, the development and consolidation of national defense call for all-inclusive efforts by the entire people in peacetime. The motto of "everything for the frontline and everything for defeating the aggressors" that we used to uphold in wartime no longer applies. The entire party and people are devoting efforts to building the nation and socialism. Therefore, we have shifted our national defense development strategy and reduced troops to create more capital and encourage economic development. But this does not mean we should belittle national defense. On the contrary, given the aforementioned circumstances and conditions, our national defense must adapt itself to the international situation and to our own national development strategy. At the same time, we must be able to promptly cope with all regional armed conflicts and to mobilize all forces to firmly defend the fatherland under all circumstances. The all-people character and forms of national defense have been developed a step further compared with past decades. National defense development and consolidation have been patterned after the mechanism based on the joint efforts of the state, the entire people, and all branches and sectors in accordance with the plans and projects formulated by the highest-level state management organ. Military strategists as well as economists, scientists, technocrats, and educators have conducted research projects and have worked together in promoting national defense.

Materials, as well as the national defense budget, all come from state sources, various economic sectors, and the people. National defense is not confined within a rigid framework, and its effectiveness can be enhanced through regular, flexible relations with the economy, politics, foreign affairs, and security. With the policy of gaining more friends and reducing the number of foes, it can promote epochal strength and assistance from friends to intensify forces and uphold the independence, sovereignty, self-reliance, dynamism, and creativity of all party members, people, and troops. Because there are many differing political tendencies and forces prone to stirring up rebellion in the national defense, ensuring political stability and defending political security should be intensified even more.

Third, concerning the contents and measures to build and consolidate national defense, the knowledge of and preliminary experiences in the economy, politics, the military, and technology which have been accumulated over nearly half a century of national struggle, have been and are being used and developed under new conditions. Also under these conditions, the economy can be combined with national defense according to both long- and short-term plans, on both large- and small-scales, and at the central, local and grassroots levels. To various rational extents, troops have participated positively in building the economy.

The national defense industry is included in the country's industrial plan and also participates in the production of consumer goods. We should link the building of economic and national defense infrastructures, rationally organize population centers, build defense zones, structure areas of strategic economic and national defense value, and shape the people's warfare attitudes, even in peacetime depending on strategic estimates and situations.

Through construction, we should strengthen the entire department and the targeted points, providing each region and the country as a whole with reserves, good communications and transport systems, and projects to mobilize forces, the economy, and industry to meet the needs of the first days and first months of the national defense war, as well as to fight and defend the rear in wartime. In national defense, the building of the People's Armed Forces and the People's Army is always considered the building of the core force for the people's war to defend the country when necessary.

Fourth, the People's Army in national defense is conceived as the most fundamental military organization within the general body of many organizations. This relationship has its own peculiarity. No matter how strong an army is, by itself it cannot represent nor create a strong national defense. Conversely, it is impossible to conceive both theoretically and practically a strong national defense that does not include a strong army. So, as it was before, and now under new conditions, our People's Army must be built and consolidated even further to remain constantly strong enough to fulfill its duty as a tool that protects the regime and the socialist Vietnam country. As a combat army, its basic function, our People's Army should have a high degree of combat readiness to fight victoriously to defend the socialist fatherland in all circumstances and to fulfill the national duty and international obligations.

The imperialist and reactionary forces still resort to many dark schemes aimed at undermining our country's

revolution. Therefore, the Army must heighten its vigilance and stand ready to use force to cope with violence. It is not advisable to separate the defense of the fatherland from the struggle to protect socialism. It is necessary to fight both foreign aggressors and internal enemies. The concept of "depoliticization of the Army" completely differs with the principles and standpoints governing the development of our country's revolutionary Army. In the framework of recent personnel cutbacks, tens of thousands of troops have been discharged from the Army. It is the very nature of national defense in peacetime which has led to troop reductions and created conditions for such a move. Generally speaking, the number of key components and the staffing of various key components have been reduced to meet the demand for crack troops and highly qualified cadres. Meanwhile, certain components need to increase their numbers to strengthen the reserve Army and consolidate the contingent of talented people. Whatever the configurations of the troop reduction program, we must remember the need to build a crack, combat-hardened revolutionary Army capable of defeating all aggressive armies in the current conditions created by the all-people war to defend the fatherland. As a result, the quality of the Army becomes everyone's concern and requires the entire party, people, and Armed Forces to heighten their sense of responsibility in developing the national defense. Besides a high-quality standing Army, we must possess a comprehensive, trustworthy militia and self-defense organization and a strong reserve force. We must expand training and enhance the quality of national defense education for our youth and our high school and college students.

Fifth, it is of utmost importance to attend to both national defense objectives and funding, because these two factors constantly exert a direct impact on the process of building and consolidating national defense. During past wars, it was rather easy to determine the objectives of national defense because a clear-cut line had been drawn between the two camps. At present, the trend of detente involves both dialogue, confrontation and cooperation, as well as conflict. Military activities and economic operations, often closely woven and mutually supportive, can also be used as camouflage. Therefore, it is important to fully understand the enemies of the revolution and firmly grasp the combat objectives of national defense. It is rather difficult to see the real motives behind the enemy's actions under specific circumstances and within specific time frames. Anyway, it is imperative to keep a constant watch, to conduct objective analyses, and promptly reach conclusions to formulate correct and solid national defense orientations. Complacency and a failure to discern between friends and foes could easily lead to a lack of vigilance. Meanwhile, one-sided interpretations of the situation could also lead to hasty and unnecessary moves. Therefore, it is imperative to proceed with caution.

The national defense budget is a basic indicator of national defense objectives and strength. It affects daily national defense operations and Army-building activities. Current national defense budget constraints are reasonable and indispensable. Nonetheless, there is a limit to the national defense budget, because if one goes beyond these fairly permissible limits, one will face either an economic or national defense crisis. Therefore, the most positive and quickest way to cope with the harsh conditions created by national defense budget constraints lies in being able to review and adjust so capital is concentrated on targeted projects. We ourselves must rely on the funding provided by the central echelons and, at the same time, must develop the spirit of self-reliance in all ministries, sectors, localities, and Army units. It is necessary to generate income from local sources, to strictly practice thrift, and to enhance the efficiency of all national defense activities.

Bac Thai Party Committee Discusses 1991 Tasks

BK2901104691 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 28 Jan 91

[Text] The executive body of the Bac Thai provincial party committee recently met to assess the socioeconomic situation and the party's building work in 1990 and to determine its goals for 1991.

In 1990, Bac Thai readjusted its economic structure toward building centralized areas for producing goods and developing the processing of forest and mineral products. Beginning in this winter-spring crop season, the province will give priority to investing in major rice-growing localities to turn them into marketable agricultural production centers, along with adopting appropriate policies to encourage the development of subsidiary crops in mountainous districts. This is aimed at satisfying the grain demands in various localities.

The province also will expand industrial establishments specializing in exploiting and processing construction materials, industrial crops, and fruits while intensively furnishing capital for the production of some commodities of high economic value such as flooring tiles, tea, and forest products for export.

Bac Thai also will pay attention to socioeconomic development in mountainous localities and will immediately expand the power supply networks in Dinh Hoa, Vo Nhai, and Bac Thong Districts and improve the two roads linking State Highway 3 with Dinh Hoa and Na Ri Districts.

Accord Inked on Sending 'Specialists' to Cambodia

BK2901162891 Hanoi VNA in English 1452 GMT 29 Jan 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA Jan 29—Vietnam and Cambodia signed here on Jan. 28 an agreement on economic, cultural, scientific and technical cooperation for 1991, a protocol of general principles on sending Vietnamese specialists to Cambodia, an agreement on goods exchange and payment for the 1991-95 period, and a protocol on goods exchange and payment in 1991.

Signatories were Hoang Minh Thang, minister of commerce, chairman of the Vietnamese Section of the Vietnam-Cambodia Commission for Economic, Scientific and

Technical Cooperation, and head of the Vietnamese delegation to the freshly-concluded 12th session of the commission, and his Cambodian counterpart, Nhim Vanda.

During their stay in Vietnam, Commerce Minister Nhim Vanda and his party were received by Nguyen Khanh, vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers. They paid tribute to the late President Ho Chi Minh at his mausoleum, visited the Ho Chi Minh Museum and a number of commercial and cultural establishments in Hanoi and the northern province of Lang Son. They left for home today.

Ceremony Marks U.S.-Aided Prosthetic Center

BK2901155391 Hanoi VNA in English 1447 GMT 29 Jan 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA Jan. 29—A ceremony was held here this morning to inaugurate the Hanoi Prosthetic Technology Research Centre built with assistance from the Prosthetic Research Foundation of the United States.

It was attended by Tran Hieu, vice minister of labour, war invalids and social affairs; Dang Nghiem Bai, assistant to the foreign minister; and others.

Among the guests were Dr. Ernest Burgess, director of the U.S. Prosthetic Research Foundation; and Ms. Marie T. Huhtala, deputy head of the Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia Affairs Office of the State Department, who is heading a U.S. Government's delegation to attend a regular meeting here on the humanitarian issues of the two countries.

Since Dec. 1989, the Prosthetic Research Foundation in Seattle has sent equipment and experts to help Vietnamese orthopedic technicians acquaint themselves with new techniques, and make a number of technical modifications to adapt their products to the climatic and living conditions of local amputees. The centre plans to turn out from 500-800 artificial legs this year.

Speaking at the inauguration, host and guest expressed their wishes for further development of the friendship and cooperation between the Vietnamese and American people.

Nguyen Van Linh Greets German Socialist Party

BK2901155591 Hanoi VNA in English 1451 GMT 29 Jan 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA Jan. 29—Party General Secrtary Nguyen Van Linh today congratulated Gregor Gysi and Hans Modrow on their re-election respectively as president and honorary president of the Party of Democratic Socialism of Germany.

The Vietnamese leader expressed wishes for further consolidation and development of the solidarity and fraternal cooperation between the two parties and peoples.

Vo Chi Cong, Do Muoi Send Greetings to India

BK2501160391 Hanoi VNA in English 1511 GMT 25 Jan 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA Jan 25—Vo Chi Cong, president of the State Council, today sent a message of greetings to Indian President Ramaswamy Venkataraman on the occasion of the 41st Republic Day of India (January 26).

His message says among other things: "We highly appreciate India's positive activities on the international arena, especially in the non-aligned movement, thus making important contributions to the cause of peace and cooperation in the region and the world as a whole."

Also today, Chairman of the Council of Ministers Do Muoi sent his warmest greetings to Indian Prime Minister Chandra Shekhar, wishing that the traditional friendship and close cooperation between Vietnam and India be further consolidated and developed in various fields.

Nguyen Khanh Attends Indian Anniversary Reception

BK2701085291 Hanoi VNA in English 0727 GMT 27 Jan 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA January 27—Indian Charge d'Affaires A.I. D.J. Bell [name as received] gave a reception here Saturday in honour of the 41st Republic Day of India (January 26).

The function was attended, among others, by Vice Chairman of the Council of Ministers Nguyen Khanh.

Days of India's Culture are being held in Ho Chi Minh City under the joint auspices of the city's Youth Union, the Indian Consulate-General and the Youth's Cultural House.

Activities during these days include an exhibition on India's history, land and people, a quiz on India, and shows of best films of India in 1990.

Do Muoi Visits Sericulture Union in Lam Dong

BK3001082191 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 29 Jan 91

[Text] On the morning of 29 January, Chairman of the Council of Ministers Do Muoi paid a working visit to the Union of Sericulture Enterprises in Bao Loc of Lam Dong Province.

The chairman highly valued Vietnamese sericulture for its integrated development, especially since the establishment of the union at the end of 1985. The union has constructed an economic relationship fairly integrally along the chain of scientific research, from cadre training to agricultural production, and from purchasing and manufacturing silk to export and high-level international cooperation.

At present there are 28 provinces planting mulberry trees, breeding silkworms, and producing silk. The union has established relations with 38 groups and companies from 14 countries. It is also integrated into the international silk market and exports satisfactorily.

In 1990, the union's export value reached tens of millions of dollars, tenfold more than in 1986. The important thing is that Vietnam's sericulture provides jobs for millions of people throughout the country.

Chairman Do Muoi visited the August Silk Enterprise, the Bao Loc Silk Enterprise, the Chau Phuong Da State Farm,

and some families planting mulberry trees and breeding silkworms in Bao Loc. The chairman also visited the Co-Ho ethnic minorities in Ca De Hamlet, Loc Ranh Village, Bao Loc District, where the sericulture production is high, and where the ethnic people have successfully built a new image for the countryside.

Radio Programs Expand; 'Credit Cards' Introduced

BK2901104091 Hanoi VNA in English 0712 GMT 29 Jan 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA January 29—This year, the communications and transport sector has decided to invest 113 billion Vietnamese dong (about 160 million U.S. dollars), [words indistinct] increase over 1990, to broaden communications networks in mountain provinces, especially in the north and in Tay Nguyen Central Highlands.

Radio "The Voice of Vietnam" has recently broadcast the first programme in the H'mong language in service of ethnic minorities in the seven northern border provinces. Meanwhile, the Ho Chi Minh City radio also has a broadcasting programme in Khmer for the Khmer ethnic minorities in southern provinces.

This year, "The Voice of Vietnam" plans to put on air a programme in the Ede language for the ethnic groups in Central Highlands.

—Nearly 1.5 million U.S. dollars had been paid in credit cards in Ho Chi Minh City since this system was introduced into the city five months ago. A plan has been drawn up to use credits cards in Hanoi soon.

—Commerce and transport chalked up a sharp increase in Ho Chi Minh City in late last year. In December 252 arrivals including 107 from abroad, and 272 departures, including 110 to foreign destinations, were recorded at Tan Son Nhat Airport, up by 10 and 7.5 percent, respectively over November. Meanwhile, the number of port calls at, and departures, from the Saigon harbour increased by 36.7 and 15 percent, respectively.